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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with arrangements adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981 (see A/36/40), the Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly on an annual basis on the management of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, indicating funds available, pledges and contributions received as well as disbursements from the Fund. This report has been prepared in accordance with the above-mentioned arrangements. On the recommendation of the Board of Trustees of the Fund, the Secretary-General is also submitting a consolidated report on 10 years (1982-1992) of Fund activities (annex I), which was submitted to the Commission on Human Rights at its 1993 session, as well as information on the Fund's latest activities.

2. The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 36/151 for the purpose of receiving voluntary contributions for distribution, through established channels of humanitarian assistance, to individuals whose human rights had been severely violated as a result of torture and to the members of their families.

3. The Fund is administered in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations by the Secretary-General, with the advice of a Board of Trustees composed of a Chairman and four members with wide experience in the field of human rights, acting in their personal capacity and appointed by the Secretary-General with due regard to equitable geographical distribution and in consultation with their Governments.

4. The members of the Board of Trustees are Mr. Jaap Walkate (Chairman), Mrs. Elizabeth Odio Benito, Mr. Ribot Hatano, Mr. Ivan Tosevski and Mr. Amos Wako.

5. In its resolution 36/151, the General Assembly authorized the Board of Trustees of the Fund to promote and solicit contributions and pledges. It also appealed to all Governments to respond favourably to the Fund's requests for contributions.

6. In its resolution 47/109 of 16 December 1992, the General Assembly, alarmed at the widespread occurrence of torture and convinced that the struggle to eliminate torture included the provision of assistance to the victims and members of their families, expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the Governments, organizations and individuals that had contributed to the Fund and to the Governments that had pledged a contribution to he Fund at the 1992 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities; called upon all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for initial as well as further contributions to the Fund; invited Governments to make contributions to the Fund, preferably on a regular basis, in order to enable the Fund to provide continuous support to projects that depended on recurrent grants; requested the Secretary-General to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds were pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities; expressed its appreciation to the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work it had carried out and to the Secretary-General for the support given to the Board by carrying

out its decisions on an increasing number of projects; and requested the Secretary-General to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials, to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its efforts to make the Fund in its humanitarian work better known and in its appeal for contributions.

II. COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

7. In 1992, the Commission on Human Rights requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission a consolidated report on the activities carried out through the Fund. The Secretary-General submitted to the Commission at its forty-ninth session, which was held from 1 February to 12 March 1993, in the consolidated report for 10 years (1982-1992) of Fund activities (E/CN.4/1993/23), which was also transmitted to members of the Committee against Torture and to members of the Board of Trustees of the Fund, and which the Secretary-General transmits herewith to the General Assembly (annex I).

8. The Secretary-General also transmitted to the Commission the text of the Istanbul Declaration (E/CN.4/1993/23/Add.2) adopted by the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) at the symposium organized in Istanbul in October 1992 by the Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims of Copenhagen, in collaboration with the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey and the Turkish Medical Association (see also annex I, para. 72). The Declaration, the text of which appears as annex II to this report, contains an appeal for the abolition of torture and requests the United Nations and its Member States, inter alia, to increase, as a matter of urgency, national Governments' contributions to the Fund from the present inadequate sum of US$ 1.6 million for 1992 to $25 million in 1995; failing which, the Declaration suggests making contributions to the Fund obligatory "by setting each year minimum target sums for each country, indicating what ought to be the contribution according to the usual distribution of financial contributions to United Nations activities".

9. The Commission also had before it a "Note on the role of boards of trustees and human rights assistance funds", the text of which is reproduced in annex III to this report.

10. By its resolution 1993/38 of 5 March 1993, the Commission on Human Rights, inter alia, made an appeal to all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for contributions to the Fund, on a regular basis if possible, and requested the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of adequate staff for the operations of the Fund.

III. TWELFTH SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

11. The Board of Trustees held its twelfth session in Geneva from 19 to 28 April 1993. The Secretary-General is bringing to the attention of the General Assembly information on the work of that session which was transmitted to him on behalf of the Board by the Chairman, Mr. Jaap Walkate (see annex IV), as well as the new guidelines recommended by the Board and approved by the

Secretary-General (annex V). Annex VI contains the press release distributed at the end of the session, which stated that, on the recommendation of the Board, the Secretary-General had approved grants for 67 projects in 50 countries, which would provide assistance for tens of thousands of torture victims, at a total cost of US$ 2 million. The press release noted further, however, that the Fund would need US$ 4 million in 1993 in order to meet a growing demand.

IV. ACTIVITIES RELATING TO INFORMATION

12. In accordance with the request made by the General Assembly in paragraph 8 of resolution 47/109, a leaflet entitled "How you can help victims of torture" has been prepared by the Fund secretariat (cf. annex I, para. 68) and has been submitted to the Board of Trustees and revised according to their recommendations; thousands of photocopies were then made and distributed to visitors at the Palais des Nations in Geneva during the twelfth session of the Board in April 1993, to participants at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in June 1993, and to participants at the meeting of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in August 1993 in Geneva (see annex VII). A Spanish and a French version of the leaflet are now being prepared.

13. A grant application was submitted in 1989 for the production of a 52-minute film in French, with English subtitles, intended for release in cinemas and for broadcast on television, dealing with torture, its after-effects and the therapy received by victims who were treated at a torture victims' assistance centre in France, the Association pour les victimes de la répression en exil (Association for Victims of Repression in Exile). While the Board believed that the request did not appear, at first glance, to fit into the category of direct assistance to victims of torture, the Board of Trustees of the Fund considered the project proposal at its 1990 session because it was interested in the opportunity it provided to make better known the Fund and its humanitarian work. The Board's recommendation, which was approved by the secretariat, was to inform the French film-makers, Mrs. Isabelle Benkemoun and Mr. Francis Allegret, that the Fund could contribute to the film's budget if substantial financing had already been secured, guaranteeing that the film would be made. After having been informed that such financing had been guaranteed by the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Communities, the French Ministries of Health, Justice and Culture, and television networks in Belgium (RTBF), France (FR3) and Switzerland (TSR), the Board, at its 1991 session, recommended a grant of US$ 5,000 to pay for video post-production costs provided that the Fund was mentioned in the list of contributors and that a reference to opportunities for organizations providing assistance to victims of torture to seek support from the Fund appeared in the closing credits. The film-makers and producers accepted this condition, the closing credits clearly mentioned the opportunity, and credits are run sufficiently slow for viewers to read the message.

14. A preview screening of the film, which was entitled "Raison d'Etat" ("Off Limits"), was given in Geneva on 8 October 1991 by the International Red Cross Museum and French-language Swiss television, which broadcast the film during prime-time hours. The film was subsequently shown on Belgian and French television and was later selected for documentary film festivals in Nyon, Leipzig, Paris, Neubrandenburg, Melbourne, Munich, San Sebastien, San Francisco

and Valladolid, and for the human rights film festivals of Strasbourg, New York and Los Angeles. Numerous newspaper articles on the film were also published.

15. The Board of Trustees of the Fund and the members of the Committee against Torture viewed "Raison d'Etat" in April 1992. The Board recommended funding the making of 15 copies of the film to be placed on loan to members of the Committee against Torture to other United Nations human rights experts wishing to use the film for presentations on torture, to organizations concerned with human rights questions and to other interested institutions.

16. More recently, an information kit on "Raison d'Etat" and on opportunities to borrow a video-cassette copy of the film was distributed to all members of human rights expert bodies meeting in Geneva. All organizations receiving financing from the Fund and other bodies responsible for monitoring implementation of international conventions prohibiting torture will now be informed by the Fund secretariat that the video-cassette is available for borrowing.

17. At the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights held in Geneva from 1 February to 12 March 1993, the Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers), a non-governmental organization having category II consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and which has made regular voluntary contributions to the Fund (see annex I, para. 30), organized, with the help of the Fund secretariat, a briefing on the Fund's activities. The meeting coincided with the Commission's consideration of agenda item 10 (a) entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment", under which the Commission considered the note of the Secretary-General on the Fund that contained the consolidated report on 10 years of Fund activities (E/CN.4/1993/23 and Add.1 and Add.2). Approximately 15 representatives of non-governmental organizations and 10 delegates participated at the meeting and asked questions concerning the criteria for selecting projects, the types of projects approved and the financing of the Fund.

18. At the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, the secretariat of the Fund, responding to a request from various non-governmental organizations (NGOs) concerned with human rights, organized a briefing on 24 June 1993. The eligibility requirement for grants were carefully examined with representatives of a dozen organizations likely to submit new projects. The Declaration and the Programme of Action adopted by the Conference, under the heading "Freedom from Torture" emphasize that torture is one of the most atrocious violations of human dignity because it strips victims of their dignity and impairs the ability of victims to go on with their lives and their activities (A/CONF.157/23, sect. II, para. 55) and that the United Nations should take further concrete action to assist victims of torture and ensure that they should have more ready access to physical, psychological, and social rehabilitation. High priority must be given to providing the necessary resources for that purpose, inter alia, through additional contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (sect. II, para. 59). Large increases to the current Voluntary Fund are required (sect. II, para. 16).

V. FINANCIAL QUESTIONS

19. During the period from 11 November 1992 to 23 September 1993, the following Governments made voluntary contributions to the Fund.

Government	Contribution (United States dollars)	
Brazil	5 000 for 1992	4th contribution
	43 824 for 1993	5th "
Chile	2 000 for 1991	1st "
Cyprus	500 for 1992	5th "
Denmark	152 494 for 1993	11th "
Finland	170 864 for 1993	12th "
France	88 496 for 1993	13th "
Germany	126 223 for 1992	10th "
Greece	5 000 for 1991	9th "
	5 000 for 1992	10th "
Indonesia	5 000 for 1993	2nd "
Ireland	14 805 for 1993	9th "
Italy	30 000 for 1992	4th "
	30 000 for 1993	5th "
Japan	100 000 for 1992	7th "
Liechtenstein	6 438 for 1992	5th "
Luxembourg	3 018 for 1992	9th "
Norway	74 985 for 1992	7th "
	100 000 for 1993	8th "
New Zealand	15 957 for 1993	8th "
Spain	58 501 for 1993	8th "
Sri Lanka	500 for 1992	4th "
Switzerland	46 358 for 1992	6th "
Tunisia	1 948 for 1992	3rd "
	1 753 for 1993	4th "
United States of America	99 000 for 1992	8th "
	500 000 for 1993	9th "

20. France increased its contribution over the 1992 level, which was $56,604. Indonesia more than doubled the amount of its initial 1988 contribution; Ireland more than doubled the amount of its 1992 contribution which was $5,815; Japan, Spain and Switzerland doubled their contributions; Norway increased its contribution; Tunisia tripled its contribution; the United States increased its contribution fourfold; and Brazil's contribution has increased almost ninefold. Mention should be made of the first contribution from Chile confirming a pledge for 1991 made at the 1990 Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

21. A $6,245 contribution had been attributed, by error, to Greece in 1990 (A/45/633, para. 6; annex I to this report, table III). The contribution was actually made by the Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights (Athens).

22. A $10,000 contribution for 1989 was mistakenly ascribed to the Republic of Korea in the consolidated report; the correct amount of the Government's contribution was $5,000 (annex I, table III).

23. The following contributions have been received from private individuals: 200 Swiss francs from Mrs. Nicole Franzen of Geneva, Switzerland; 176 Canadian dollars from Mrs. Ethel North of Kelliher, Canada; 800 French francs from Mr. O. Girardot of Lescarène, France; 19.5 Swiss francs from Mrs. E. Pandur of Zurich, Switzerland; 25 United States dollars from Mrs. R. Maran of Berkeley, California, United States; and 300 Dutch guilders from Mr. J. Walkate of Ottawa, Canada.

24. With one exception, no pre-1993 pledges remain unpaid. This is the result of a reminder letter, dated 30 March, from the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, addressed to States which had made pledges, requesting that pledges be paid before 19 April 1993, the first day of the twelfth session of the Board, which would allow the funds to be allocated and used in the current year. Finland, France, Greece, Indonesia, Ireland, Luxembourg and Tunisia heeded the request. As at 23 September 1993, the following pledges were outstanding:

Belgium	BF 3 000 000 for 1993	3 prior contributions
Costa Rica	US$ 10 000 for 1993	1st contribution
Germany	DM 200 000 for 1993	10 prior contributions
Netherlands	f. 100 000 for 1992	10 prior contributions
	f. 200 000 for 1993	10 prior contributions
Sweden	Kr 2 000 000 for 1993	6 prior contributions
	Kr 3 000 000 for 1994	6 prior contributions

25. A pledge by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for 1992 was incorrectly recorded (A/47/662, para. 8); annex I to this report, table I). The Secretary-General was informed by the Government concerned that the amount in question represented its contribution for two years (1991 and 1992), mentioned by the United Kingdom representative in his statement to the Commission on Human Rights on 30 January 1992.

26. Mention should be made of a contribution by the Rank Xerox Corporation, Geneva, which, in April 1993, made high-speed reproduction equipment available to the secretariat, free of charge. This equipment made it possible to make 17,000 photocopies in one hour and thirty minutes, for use in preparing sets of documentation for the members of the Board of Trustees for the twelfth session. As a result, the Fund secretariat was saved three days of work during a very busy period; this saving amounted to a voluntary contribution of about 2,000 Swiss francs.

27. As indicated above (para. 11), the Fund had $2 million to use. Twice that amount would have been needed, however, to meet 1993 needs. According to the information brought to the secretariat's attention during the hearings conducted by the Board of Trustees and at the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights, the organizations involved in assisting victims of torture consider that the Fund needs to double the amount of its grants in order to provide about $4.5 million in assistance out of a global need estimated at $13 million. The growing needs

can be explained by more widespread knowledge, among both victims and health professionals, that victims of torture require treatment and rehabilitation even years after having been tortured and that they can still benefit from care. Increasingly, former and new victims are no longer reluctant to seek assistance of this kind, and the number of treatment centres and programmes is growing. The fact that new sources of financing have emerged (European Communities, bilateral development assistance) does not mean that the share of assistance provided by the Fund should decrease; on the contrary, since other funding bodies have lost interest in several programmes in Latin America (long-term treatment for victims of torture inflicted in previous years) and in Western Europe (assistance programmes for refugees who are torture victims), the Fund has offset this reduced involvement by increasing its own grants to such kinds of programmes in order to ensure continuity in their work.

28. Since the Fund had only limited resources in 1993, in accordance with its mandate and the recommendations of the Board of Trustees aimed at making optimum use of available funds to assist victims of torture and their family members in the most direct way possible, the Secretary-General favours suspending financing this year for studies, research, theses and documentation centres.

29. From July 1992 to April 1993, the Fund secretariat handled 40 per cent more cases than during the previous year. It was able to do so because it had additional temporary assistance for eight months, as against four months the previous year. The workload is expected to increase by at least as much in 1994.

30. At the 1993 session of the Commission on Human Rights, the Government of Sweden declared that the plight of victims of serious human rights violations, and of their family members, should receive priority treatment from the United Nations and that it, therefore, attached great importance to the Fund's work, to which it had been a contributor since 1981. It urged other Governments to increase their contributions to the Fund and announced an increase of one million Swedish kronor for 1994. Several other Governments also doubled their contribution for 1992 or 1993 (see para. 20). The Board of Trustees of the Fund expressed the hope that many other States would follow suit before April 1993 so that in the coming year the United Nations might properly assume its world-wide responsibilities for assisting the victims of torture.

Annex I

CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON 10 YEARS (1982-1992) OF THE UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR TORTURE*

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* Previously issued as E/CN.4/1993/23.

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Introduction

1. The United Nations, in the context of its activities in promoting and protecting human rights, pays special attention to the elimination of torture, which is strictly prohibited by a large number of rules of international law and is not to be tolerated under any circumstances, even during states of emergency or armed conflict. Torture is one of the most serious violations of human integrity, since it may lead to physical and mental consequences which can last for several years or even be irreversible.

2. Despite the various measures taken by the United Nations to encourage the implementation of rules for protection against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, torture continues to be used in many countries. In order to assist the victims of torture, the General Assembly decided in resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981:

> "To extend the mandate of the United Nations Trust Fund for Chile, established by General Assembly resolution 33/174, in order to make it capable of receiving voluntary contributions for distribution, through established channels of assistance, as humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights have been severely violated, as a result of torture and to relatives of such victims, priority being given to aid to victims of violations by States in which the human rights situation has been the subject of resolutions or decisions adopted by either the Assembly, the Economic and Social Council or the Commission on Human Rights".

3. The Commission on Human Rights at its forty-eighth session, in resolution 1992/27, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its forty-ninth session a consolidated report on the work carried out through the Fund during its 10 years of activity. It also requested the Secretary-General to continue to keep the Commission informed of the operations of the Fund on an annual basis.

4. A study of the first five years of the Fund's activity was made by the first Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Hans Danelius, and published in the Human Rights Quarterly, volume 8, No. 2, pp. 294-305, in May 1986.

I. PRESENTATION OF THE FUND

A. Mandate

5. The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture was set up on 16 December 1981 by General Assembly resolution 36/151, amending resolution 33/174 of 20 December 1978, which had established the United Nations Trust Fund for Chile, and extending the mandate to all victims of torture and to their relatives (indirect victims). The General Assembly took this decision on the basis of reports which established that acts of torture were being committed in various countries.

6. The General Assembly, in resolution 36/151, authorized the Board of Trustees of the fund to promote and solicit contributions and pledges. It also appealed to all Governments to respond favourably to requests for regular

contributions to the Fund. The Fund also receives gifts from non-governmental organizations and private individuals and distributes the contributions received through established channels of humanitarian assistance in the form of financial aid to organizations submitting assistance projects for individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of torture and to their relatives. Priority should go to assisting the victims of torture committed by States in which the human rights situation has been the subject of resolutions or decisions by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council or the Commission on Human Rights.

B. Administration

7. The Fund is managed by the United Nations Secretariat, and more specifically by the Centre for Human Rights at Geneva. It is administered, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of the United Nations and pursuant to General Assembly resolution 36/151 by the Secretary-General, assisted by a Board of Trustees composed of five members with wide experience in the field of human rights, acting in their personal capacity and appointed by the Secretary-General, on the basis of a fair geographical distribution and in consultation with their Governments, for a renewable three-year mandate.

8. The Board of Trustees, renewed on 1 January 1992 is as follows:

Mr. Jaap Walkate, Chairman, Netherlands (1989-1994) (the first Chairman, Hans Danelius, appointed in 1982, resigned in 1989 following his election to the Supreme Court of Sweden), Mrs. Elisabeth Odio Benito, Costa Rica (1982-1994), Mr. Ribot Hatano, Japan (1992-1994) (Mr. Walid Sadi, Jordan, was a member of the Board of Trustees from 1982 to 1991), Mr. Ivan Tosevski, Yugoslavia (1982-1994) and Mr. Amos Wako, Kenya (1982-1994). It holds an annual session, theoretically in April, when for a week it gives careful consideration to the large number of projects received. It makes recommendations to the Secretary-General on projects which it considers relevant and in keeping with the Fund's mandate.

9. The Board of Trustees attaches the highest importance to preparing detailed narrative and financial reports on the use of each grant before making a further favourable recommendation. The Board has a policy of not covering the full financing of projects submitted, so that they will not be completely dependent on the Fund, and of encouraging them to solicit other sources of finance. In this report, the term "project" means proposals for financing submitted to the Board of Trustees and the term "programme" means projects which have been approved, have received grants and have been started up. The Board approves programmes which provide medical, psychological, social or legal assistance as directly as possible to the victims of torture and their relatives. It also finances training programmes for health personnel on techniques for treating the victims of torture and meetings of medical personnel at which participants exchange experiences.

10. The secretariat of the Fund and its Board of Trustees is staffed by the Centre for Human Rights at Geneva. The address to which applications for grants or information should be made is:

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (UNVFVT), Centre for Human Rights, United Nations, CH-1211, Geneva 10; tel. (4122) 917.33.94 or 917.33.95; Fax (4122) 917.01.23.

11. The Fund's accounts are checked along with those of the 129 other United Nations Funds and the comments to be found in the annual report of the auditors of United Nations accounts also apply to this Fund.

II. THE FUND'S FINANCIAL SOURCES

12. The Fund receives contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations and private individuals. The support of many States representing different regions of the world makes for greater credibility and facilitates its activity.

A. Government contributions

1. Pledges

13. Government pledges to the Fund are either made directly to the secretariat, or at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, or, less frequently, at the annual session of the Commission on Human Rights at Geneva.

Table I

Contributions

(in United States dollars unless otherwise indicated)

STATES	1991	1992	1993
Germany		119 047.62	130 000
Chile	2 000		
United States		99 000	549 000
Greece	5 000		
Italy		30 000	30 000
Japan		100 000	
Liechtenstein		6 802.72	7 300
Luxembourg			Lux F 100 000
Netherlands		52 631	NFL 200 000
United Kingdom			46 992 a/
Sweden		SKr 2 million	SKr 3 million
Tunisia			1 949

a/ See report of the Secretary-General above, para. 25.

2. Trend in contributions

14. The number of Governments contributing to the Fund rose from 5 in 1982 to 16 in 1992. It will be noted that the increase in the number of donor Governments was proportional to the number of grant-assisted programmes from 1982 to 1988. As from 1989, the number of programmes receiving grants increased sevenfold, while the number of government contributions decreased.

Table II

Trend in the number of States contributing to the Fund compared with the trend in assisted programmes: situation at 30 November 1992

(in United States dollars)

Years	Donor States	Grant-assisted programmes	Recommended amounts a/
1982	5	-	-
1983	8	11	268 200
1984	18	13	265 500
1985	13	15	263 700
1986	21	31	1 165 944
1987	19	27	837 800
1988	24	35	888 550
1989	20	24	486 400
1990	14	68	2 066 300
1991	20	72	2 238 700
1992	16	17	1 610 300
Total	41 b/	367 c/	10 091 394

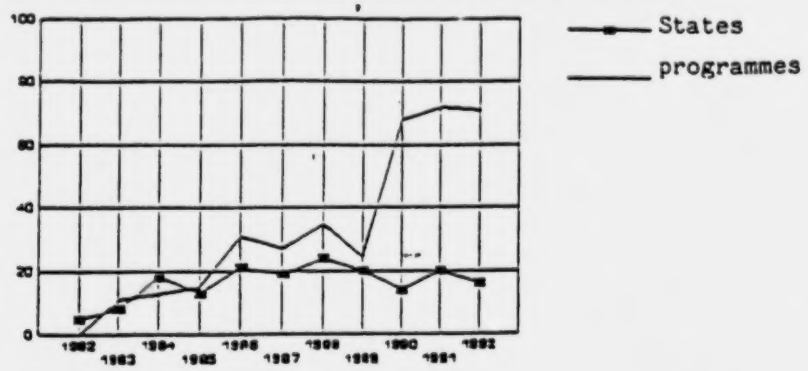
a/ These are projects recommended by the Board of Trustees and approved by the Secretary-General. Under the policy of the Board of Trustees, which ensures that it has seen detailed reports before releasing the grant, the grant may be blocked until the Fund's secretariat receives satisfactory reports.

b/ This total is for the number of States which have made one or more contributions to the Fund.

c/ Some programmes comprise new aspects which may receive grants in the form of subprogrammes. This total includes programmes and subprogrammes.

Figure 1

Trend in the number of donor States and number of programmes



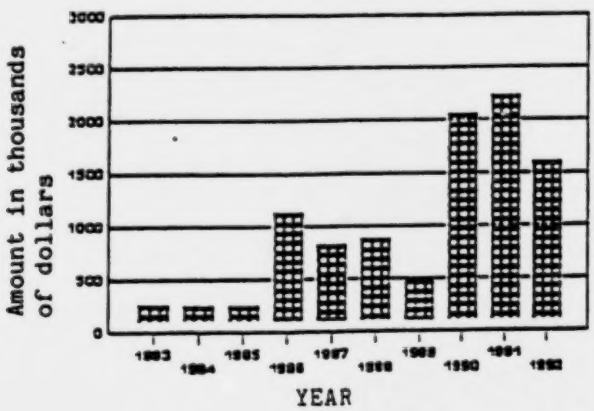
Annual trend

15. It will be noted that the number of States contributing to the Fund remains stationary or decreases, while the number of programmes grows steadily.

16. As at 30 November 1992, 41 States had taken part in the financing of the Fund. Some, such as Norway and Sri Lanka, have stopped contributing or reduced their contributions. In 1992, some Governments doubled their pledges for 1993, namely, Japan, the Netherlands and Sweden. The United States even quintupled its pledge. There are also new regular contributors, such as Tunisia.

Figure 2

Annual trend in recommended amounts a/



a/ Projects recommended by the Board of Trustees and approved by the Secretary-General.

17. It should be noted that the fluctuation in the United States dollar, which is the reference currency of the United Nations, may be deceptive. For example, Germany has regularly contributed DM 200,000 to the Fund since 1984, representing approximately 64,000 dollars in 1986 and twice that sum in 1990.

Table III

Annual government contribution per country, 1982 to 1992

1982	Amount in dollars
1. Cyprus	500
2. Denmark	114 600.05
3. Netherlands	45 000
4. Norway	100 000
5. Sweden	150 000
TOTAL	410 100.05

1983	Amount in dollars
1. Germany	54 106.70
2. Canada	7 932
3. Cyprus	200
4. Finland	134 305.26
5. France	19 480.52
6. Greece	5 000
7. Luxembourg	3 854.87
8. Norway	136 967.54
TOTAL	361 846.89

1984	Amount in dollars
1. Germany	64 277.68
2. Australia	12 816
3. Cameroon	1 113.77
4. Canada	7 633.59
5. Cyprus	250
6. Denmark	104 783.36
7. Finland	75 936.55
8. France	20 496.89
9. Greece	5 000
10. Ireland	5 690
11. Jordan	1 000
12. Liechtenstein	2 286
13. Luxembourg	2 582.16
14. Netherlands	50 000
15. United Kingdom	12 445
16. San Marino	2 258.93
17. Sweden	60 790.27
18. Switzerland	68 540
TOTAL	497 900.20

1985	Amount in dollars
1. Germany	79 032.64
2. Austria	5 000
3. Belgium	10 000
4. Brazil	5 000
5. Canada	36 496.35
6. Denmark	93 187.96
7. United States	100 000
8. Finland	87 596.36
9. France	26 315.78
10. Greece	5 000
11. Ireland	7 080.50
12. Kenya	400
13. Netherlands	60 750
TOTAL	515 859.59

1986	Amount in dollars
1. Germany	99 216.19
2. Austria	5 000
3. Brazil	5 000
4. Cameroon	1 344.90
5. Canada	7 103
6. Cyprus	300
7. Denmark	120 402.14
8. Spain	13 176.09
9. Finland	104 304.95
10. France	37 593.98
11. Greece	5 000
12. Ireland	10 872
13. Iceland	2 000
14. Japan	50 000
15. Liechtenstein	2 958.58
16. Luxembourg	1 421.80
17. Norway	5 000
18. New Zealand	13 400
19. Netherlands	165 811.84
20. Sweden	72 020.16
21. Switzerland	92 165.90
TOTAL	814 091.53

1967		Amount in dollars
1.	Germany	119 688.81
2.	Austria	5 000
3.	Belgium	10 000
4.	Canada	7 692
5.	Spain	19 196.65
6.	United States	172 000
7.	Finland	134 048.26
8.	France	40 650.40
9.	Greece	5 000
10.	Ireland	8 940
11.	Iceland	2 000
12.	Italy	100 000
13.	Japan	50 000
14.	Kenya	500
15.	Luxembourg	1 102.71
16.	Norway	50 000
17.	New Zealand	15 610
18.	United Kingdom	41 987.50
19.	Senegal	186
	TOTAL	783 602.33

1988		Amount in dollars
1.	Germany	114 943
2.	Argentina	5 000
3.	Australia	3 573
4.	Austria	5 000
5.	Belgium	10 000
6.	Brazil	5 000
7.	Canada	24 390
8.	Korea (Republic of)	5 000
9.	Denmark	294 540.25
10.	Spain	22 304.50
11.	Finland	154 922.54
12.	France	18 518.52
13.	Greece	5 000
14.	Indonesia	1 985.87
15.	Ireland	3 207
16.	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	5 000
17.	Japan	50 000
18.	Liechtenstein	3 597
19.	Norway	75 000
20.	New Zealand	20 040
21.	Netherlands	50 308
22.	Holy See	1 000
23.	Sri Lanka	500
24.	Sweden	95 655.64
	TOTAL	974 485.32

1989	Amount in dollars
1. Germany	112 549.24
2. Argentina	4 000
3. Austria	5 000
4. Cameroon	1 227.21
5. Canada	25 200.62
6. Korea (Republic of) a/	10 000
7. Denmark	127 535
8. Spain	34 885
9. Finland	153 773
10. France	108 425.18
11. Greece	5 000
12. Haiti	186
13. Ireland	2 858
14. Iceland	2 000
15. Japan	50 000
16. Malta	300
17. New Zealand	18 420
18. Netherlands	40 521.72
19. Switzerland	32 258.06
20. Togo	1 540.43
TOTAL	735 679.46

1990	Amount in dollars
1. Germany	135 749.68
2. Austria	5 000
3. Canada	25 031.73
4. Denmark	173 430.45
5. Spain	36 730.27
6. Finland	171 198.39
7. France	91 097.30
8. Greece b/	6 244.88
9. Iceland	2 300
10. Luxembourg	2 917.15
11. New Zealand	17 685
12. Netherlands	26 805.66
13. United Kingdom	50 733
14. Yugoslavia	5 000
TOTAL	749 923.51

a/ See report of the Secretary-General above, para. 22.

b/ See report of the Secretary-General above, para. 21.

1991	Amount in dollars
1. Germany	126 103.40
2. Argentina	6 996
3. Austria	6 000
4. Canada	26 652.41
5. Denmark	152 068.13
6. Spain	34 798.64
7. Finland	174 640
8. France	55 555.55
9. Ireland	3 572.40
10. Iceland	2 410
11. Italy	30 000
12. Japan	50 000
13. Norway	99 985
14. New Zealand	17 676
15. Netherlands	54 914.88
16. United Kingdom	42 007
17. Sri Lanka	1 000
18. Sweden	169 097
19. Switzerland	41 674.03
20. Tunisia	1 298.70
TOTAL	1 096 449.14

1992	Amount in dollars
1. Austria	10 000
2. Canada	24 939.73
3. Denmark	168 662
4. Spain	67 187.52
5. United States	388 000
6. Finland	180 230.13
7. France	56 603.77
8. Ireland	5 815.25
9. Iceland	9 617
10. Italy	30 000
11. Japan	50 000
12. Liechtenstein	7 901
13. Luxembourg	2 959.42
14. New Zealand	27 494
15. Sweden	173 631.46
16. Tunisia	1 298.70
TOTAL	1 204 339.98

Table IV

Total contributions a/ received per year
(in dollars)

Year	Contributions
1982	410 100.05
1983	361 846.89
1984	497 900.20
1985	515 859.59
1986	814 091.53
1987	783 602.33
1988	974 485.32
1989	735 679.46
1990	749 923.51
1991	1 096 449.14
1992	1 204 339.98
TOTAL	8 144 278

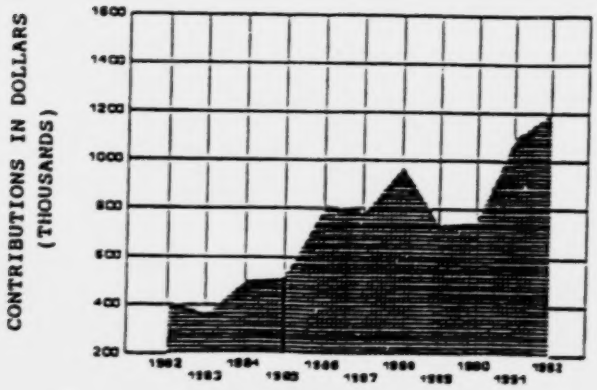
a/ Contributions received during one year can be assigned to another year if the contributing State so wishes.

18. Yearly contributions doubled from 1982 to 1986, then stabilized through to the end of 1990 and exceeded $1 million in 1991. The Nordic countries contribute over 50 per cent.

19. The following chart summarizes the contributions received, which are tending to drop when averaged among the number of contributing States. This decrease should be attributed not to a lack of participation by States but rather to delays in payments and pledges and to fluctuations in the dollar. Hence the importance, repeated each year by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, of States making regular contributions to the Fund.

Figure 3

Annual trend in Contributions



ANNUAL TREND

20. As at 30 November 1992, 41 Governments contributed an overall total of $8,144,278 to the Fund. Contributions by geographical area, from 1982 through 30 November 1992, are shown in the following tables (tables V to VIII):

Table V

Contributions from Africa

State	Contributions in dollars
Cameroon	3 685.88
Kenya	900
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	5 000
Senegal	186
Togo	1 540.43
Tunisia	2 597.40
TOTAL	13 909.71

Table VI

Contributions from the Americas and the Caribbean

State	Contributions in dollars
Argentina	15 996
Brasil	15 000
Canada	193 071.43
United States of America	660 000
Haïti	186
TOTAL	884 253.43

Table VII

Contributions from the Middle East, Asia and Oceania

State	Contributions in dollars
Australia	16 389
Indonesia	1 985.87
Japan	300 000
Jordan	1 000
New Zealand	130 325
Republic of Korea	15 000
Sri Lanka	1 500
TOTAL	466 199.87

Table VIII

Contributions from Europe

State	Contributions in dollars
Germany	905 667.34
Austria	46 000
Belgium	30 000
Cyprus	1 250
Denmark	1 349 209.30
Spain	228 278.67
Finland	1 370 955.40
France	474 737.89
Greece	41 244.88
Ireland	48 035.15
Iceland	20 327
Italy	160 000
Lichtenstein	16 742.58
Luxembourg	14 838.11
Malta	300
Norway	466 952.54
Netherlands	494 112.10
United Kingdom	147 172.50
San Marino	2 258.93
Holy See	1 000
Sweden	721 194.53
Switzerland	234 637.99
Yugoslavia	5 000
TOTAL	6 779 914.91

As at 30 November 1992, total government contributions thus stood at $8,144,277.92.

21. Tables IX to XIII below show the annual percentage of contributions by geographical area.

22. The contribution from the African continent is quite modest (0.2 per cent on the average; only six African countries have contributed to the Fund), but symbolic, for it is a sign of support by African developing countries for the Fund's activities on behalf of victims of torture.

23. The contribution from North America (Canada and the United States), South America and the Caribbean (Haiti) remains modest (9 per cent on the average) in comparison with that of Europe. In 1992 contributions increased somewhat (34 per cent), basically due to efforts by the Government of the United States, which honoured its pledges for 1988, 1989, 1990 and 1991.

24. Asia, Oceania and the Middle East have been contributing approximately 5 per cent of the total contributions in recent years. In Asia, Japan is still the main contributor, with $50,000 every year. It is a regular donor, and so is New Zealand.

25. Europe remains the principal donor: 85 per cent on the average, nearly 50 per cent of which comes from the Nordic countries. The 1 per cent contribution from eastern Europe in 1990 corresponds to a pledge that was made in 1981 by Yugoslavia to the Fund for Chile and which the Government allocated to the Fund and paid in 1991.

Table IX

Percentage from Africa

Year	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
AFRICA	-	-	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	-	0.2%	-	0.1%	0.1%

Table X

Percentage from the Americas and the Caribbean

Year	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
NORTH AMERICA	-	2%	1%	26%	1%	23%	2%	3%	3%	2.6%	34%
SOUTH AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	-	-	-	1%	1%	-	1%	-	-	0.7%	-
Total	-	2%	1%	27%	2%	23%	3%	3%	3%	3%	34%

Table XI

Percentage from Asia, Oceania and the Middle East

Year	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
ASIA	-	-	-	-	6%	6%	6%	8%	-	5%	4%
OCEANIA	-	-	3%	-	2%	2%	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%
MIDDLE EAST	-	-	0.2%	-	-	-	1%	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	3%	-	8%	8%	11%	11%	2%	7%	6%

Table XII

Percentage from Europe

Year	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
European Economic Community and other countries	11%	23%	47%	37%	53%	45%	24%	47%	48%	32%	16%
Eastern Europe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1%	-	-
Nordic countries	89%	75%	49%	36%	37%	24%	62%	39%	46%	58%	44%
Total	100%	98%	96%	73%	90%	69%	86%	86%	95%	90%	60%

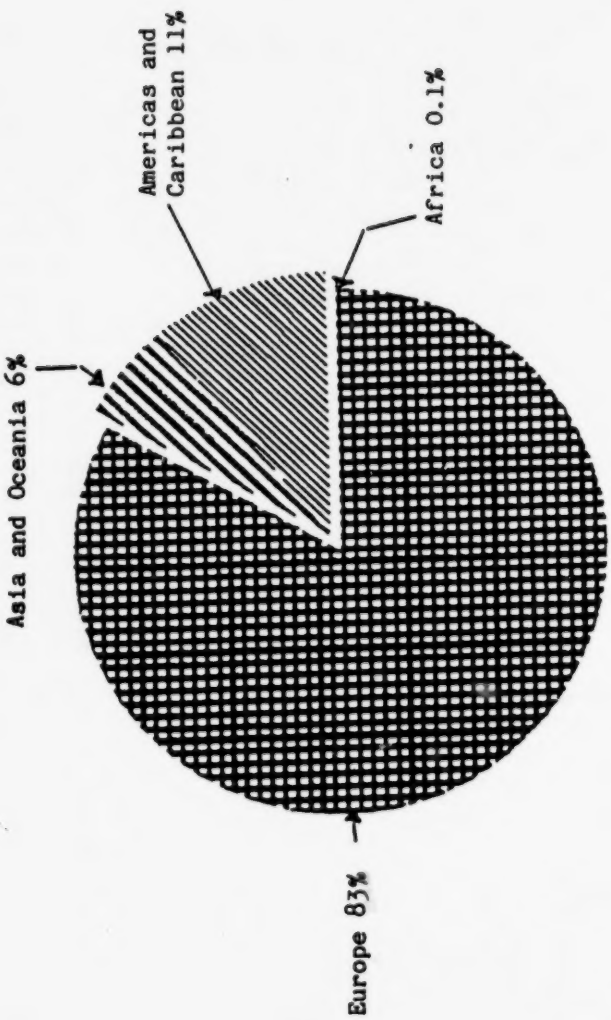
Table XIII

Summary table of contributions by continent, in percentages

Year	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992
AFRICA	-	-	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	-	0.2%	-	0.1%	0.1%
AM. & CAR.	-	2%	1%	27%	2%	23%	3%	3%	3%	3%	34%
ASIA, OC. & MID. EAST	-	-	3%	-	8%	8%	11%	11%	2%	7%	6%
EUROPE	100%	98%	96%	73%	90%	69%	86%	86%	95%	90%	60%

Figure 4

Percentage of contributions paid, 1982 to 1992



3. Regular donors

26. In 1992, the regular donor countries were Argentina, Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, United Kingdom, and United States. These 22 countries have been making more or less contributions; the slight drop in contributions is basically due to fluctuations in the dollar.

4. Occasional donors

27. These are States that have contributed to the Fund on one or more occasions.

Table XIV

Occasional donors

AFRICA	AM. & CARIBBEAN	ASIA, OCEANIA AND MID. EAST	EUROPE
Cameroon (1989)	Argentina (1989)	Australia (1988)	Belgium (1988)
Kenya (1987)	Brazil (1988)	Indonesia (1988)	Cyprus (1987)
Libyan Arab J. (1988)	Haiti (1988)	Jordan (1984)	Malta (1988)
Senegal (1987)			San Marino (1984) Holy See (1988)
Togo (1989)			

5. Classification of donors by amount of contribution

28. It is interesting to see that, of the 41 countries which have contributed to the Fund, 23 accounted for 99 per cent of the resources, the remaining 1 per cent being divided among the 18 other countries.

Table XV

Classification of States by amount of cumulative contribution (1982-1992)

State	Amount in dollars	Percentage
1. Finland	1 370 955.40	17
2. Denmark	1 349 209.30	16
3. Germany	905 667.34	11
4. Sweden	721 194.53	9
5. United States	660 000	8
6. Netherlands	494 112.10	6
7. France	474 737.89	6
8. Norway	466 952.54	5
9. Japan	300 000	4
10. Switzerland	234 637.99	3
11. Spain	228 278.67	2.8
12. Canada	193 071.43	2.4
13. Italy	160 000	2
14. New Zealand	130 325	1.8
15. United Kingdom	147 172.50	1.8
16. Ireland	48 035.15	0.6
17. Austria	46 000	0.6
18. Greece	41 244.88	0.5
19. Belgium	30 000	0.4
20. Liechtenstein	16 742.58	0.2
21. Australia	16 389	0.2
22. Argentina	15 996	0.2
23. Korea	15 000	0.1
24. Brazil	15 000	0.1
25. Iceland	20 327	0.2
26. Luxembourg	14 838.11	*
27. Libyan Arab J.	5 000	*
28. Yugoslavia	5 000	*
29. Cameroon	3 685.88	*
30. Tunisia	2 597.40	*
31. San Marino	2 258.93	*
32. Indonesia	1 985.87	*
33. Togo	1 540.43	*
34. Sri Lanka	1 500	*
35. Cyprus	1 250	*
36. Holy See	1 000	*
37. Jordan	1 000	*
38. Kenya	900	*
39. Malta	300	*
40. Senegal	186	*
41. Haïti	186	*
OVERALL TOTAL	8 144 277.92	100

6. Donors who have reduced their contribution

29. More than two-thirds of States have never given assistance to the Fund. As everyone knows, however, torture continues to exist, and the number of older more recent victims in need of care is constantly growing. Under the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights every year, all Governments should be encouraged to bear in mind the Fund's efforts to help these victims by contributing to the Fund and thus demonstrating their will to participate. This is especially necessary because few Governments help specifically with the treatment of torture victims in their countries (examples were pointed out to us in Belgium, Chile, Denmark and France) and because those where torture has been practised have often failed to act against the torturers, sometimes because of amnesty laws, thus helping to increase the mental suffering of their victims.

B. Contributions from institutions, organizations and private individuals

30. A number of institutions and organizations, some in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, contributed a total of over $26,000 to the Fund from 1982-1992. They include the International Association of Penal Law, the Lutheran World Federation, Christian Action against Torture, the First Baptist Church, the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the United Nations Association in Canada, the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the World Congress on Human Rights and the Friends World Committee for Consultation (Quakers). This last organization has regularly assisted the Fund, increasing its contribution, originally $78, to $3,000 in 1990. Furthermore, organizations occasionally approach Governments to urge them to contribute regularly to the Fund or to increase their participation.

31. Private individuals (see appendix VI) have also supported the Fund. Their contributions are, of course, of a token nature compared with those of Governments, but they are none the less important as testimony of support by individuals for the Fund and for other persons who have been victims of torture. Mention should be made of the initiative of the Netherlands Section of the International Commission of Jurists, which, at the suggestion of Mr. Jaap Walkate, has opened an account to enable individuals living in the Netherlands to make donations, which are then paid into the Fund. Some lecturers have asked educational institutions, such as Fordham University (United States), Marymount Manhattan College (United States) and the College of the Assumption (Canada), to pay into the Fund their fees for lectures on human rights.

Table XVI

Summary list of contributions
(dollars)

Year	Governments	Organizations	Private individuals
1982	410 100.05	-	-
1983	361 846.89	1 000	214.93
1984	497 900.20	541.62	2 023.86
1985	515 859.59	1 428.20	1 517.09
1986	814 091.53	173.52	885.60
1987	783 602.33	502.08	2 419.19
1988	974 485.32	1 880.52	824.51
1989	735 679.46	-	540.90
1990	749 923.51	3 006.15	388.36
1991	1 096 449.14	9 746.38	6 582.20
1992	1 204 339.98	8 090.46	1 317
TOTAL	8 144 278	26 368.93	17 713.64

III. ASSISTED PROGRAMMES

A. Selection criteria

32. Projects to be financed from the Fund must meet the criteria recommended over the years by the Board of Trustees and approved by the Secretary-General; they appear in appendices II, III and IV. In addition to stating the specific assistance objectives (medical, psychological, social or other assistance, professional training, exchange of experience and information among health professionals, publications, etc.), the organization requesting Fund support must provide a detailed explanation of the assistance it will provide to torture victims. It must indicate the expected duration of the project and the various project stages, state whether the project is already in operation, provide a detailed budget and specify the exact amount of the grant requested from the Fund.

33. Applicants must also provide information on the organization responsible for project implementation and follow-up and on its experience in managing assistance programmes for torture victims. It must provide all necessary information on the number of torture victims receiving assistance, without giving their names, but indicating the type of torture suffered, the type of treatment administered or envisaged, the assistance currently being received by the victims and the anticipated results.

34. Throughout the year, the Fund secretariat provides details on these criteria; explains how the Fund operates; asks for clarifications on the project requests received; receives and hears in English, French and Spanish the persons in charge of projects; prepares summaries in English of any information received from or sent to persons in charge of projects; orders the payment of grants when the conditions recommended by the Board of Trustees

have been met or when the Chairman, if he has to be consulted, gives his approval; and checks that the grants have actually been received and that grant applications and reports on grants received (financial, narrative and audit reports) are satisfactory. It updates all this information in time for the Board's annual session in April.

35. At its annual meeting, the Board reviews all the programmes receiving assistance and not yet completed, as well as all new grant applications. In many cases, the Board of Trustees recommends that the Fund secretariat should obtain further information or clarifications from project sponsors. It may suspend payment of all or part of a grant until satisfactory narrative and financial reports are received by the secretariat, which may consult the Chairman of the Board between sessions, or all members of the Board if necessary.

36. The Board of Trustees has also found that, in certain special cases, very rapid assistance is necessary to fund urgent medical treatment in the victim's country of origin, if there is no Fund-assisted programme in that country. In other cases, an individual and his family may need assistance to enable them to leave the country quickly, perhaps to travel to a place where the necessary medical treatment is available. An organization may also be about to discontinue treatment or dismiss its staff because a donor has failed to pay, is late in paying or has reduced its grant significantly. The Board of Trustees may then decide to recommend a special grant for a project to enable such assistance to be provided where the case appears to justify it. The Chairman may authorize the payment of emergency grants of up to US$ 10,000 in each case. An amount of US$ 100,000 has been earmarked for this purpose. At the time of writing, the Fund secretariat has been able to deal with most of the applications received without resorting to emergency grants; only one case of an individual victim has been accepted (the sum of US$ 1,500 has been allocated to it) and two organizations about to interrupt treatment of victims have received emergency grants of US$ 10,000 on the Chairman's recommendation.

37. Further details may be found in the guidelines adopted by the Board, which are contained in appendix V to this report and also to the Secretary-General's 1992 report to the General Assembly (A/47/662).

B. Number of projects submitted to the Fund

38. From the establishment of the Fund until 30 November 1992, 181 files were started by the Fund secretariat. One organization may submit a number of projects and, in the course of time, an approved and assisted programme may, as it is being implemented, give rise to a number of sub-projects. Some projects received may fall outside the purview of the Fund, fail to meet all the criteria, be abandoned by their sponsors, become impracticable because of armed conflict, or be rejected because the organization submitting them fails to provide guarantees of proper project implementation. In addition, each year, about a dozen projects are held in abeyance pending further information.

Table XVII

Number of projects submitted to the Fund

Year	Session	Total projects received	Programmes assisted
1983	First (March)	10	
	Second (October)	23	11
1984	Third (August)	15	13
1985	Fourth (April)	30	15
1986	Fifth (February)	31	31
1987	Sixth (February)	27	27
1988	Seventh (February)	34	35
1989	Eighth (April)	50	24
1990	Ninth (June)	69	68
1991	Tenth (April)	70	72
1992	Eleventh (April)	70	71
Total		429	347

39. It will be seen that the number of projects received is increasing each year. Programme funding depends on the amount of contributions received by the Fund and the sums available each year. Any reduction in contributions means that fewer projects can be assisted or that the size of grants must be reduced. In recent years, the Board of Trustees has decided to recommend payment of almost all the resources available.

C. Types of programme

40. In recent years, the Board's practice has been to recommend to the Secretary-General that grants should be awarded to the following types of programme:

Psychological assistance	25%
Medical assistance	31%
Economic and social rehabilitation	10%
Training of health professionals	8%
Establishment of treatment centres	4%
Meetings of experts	9%
Indirect child victims	7%
Publications	4%
Legal assistance	2%

41. Although it is very difficult to generalize, as the programmes assisted differ widely, we have attempted below, for an easier understanding, to identify a number of frequent characteristics:

1. Treatment of torture victims

42. The Board of Trustees and the Fund secretariat, in accordance with the mandate established by the General Assembly, accept only projects including assistance to torture victims or their relatives. As a result, the bulk of grants goes to programmes for the treatment of torture victims, particularly medical, psychological and social treatment:

(a) Psychological treatment is essential, as some of the serious consequences of torture are of a psychological nature, such as depression, chronic anxiety, paranoia and a feeling of deep humiliation, in some cases to the point of suicide. Psychological assistance is also extended to the relatives of torture victims, who suffer indirect effects;

(b) Medical treatment is designed to deal with physical injuries and requires highly specialized care. Some programmes involve centres offering such treatment to victims, others are for referral centres where victims are received, listened to and examined, and then referred to medical specialists.

43. These treatments take the form of individual, family or group therapy and rehabilitation programmes. Each treatment programme is tailored to the local situation and to the needs of the victims and their families; they are based on a comprehensive approach dealing with all the problems resulting from torture (medical, psychological, social and economic problems), and taking account of the family, social and occupational environment of the individual concerned. The victim first undergoes a thorough examination to determine his exact needs and is then directed, as far as possible, to the appropriate services. If those services are inadequate, efforts are made to provide the victim and his family with medical treatment, kinesotherapy, psychiatric and psychological treatment and social and economic assistance.

2. Economic, social and legal assistance

44. Economic and social assistance is extended to the family in the form of rehabilitation therapy and economic aid. Study fellowships and vocational training or rehabilitation workshops are set up to help the victim and his family. There are special programmes for children or for the establishment of income-earning workshops. They are designed to enable the victim and his family to resume a normal productive life within the community. Many of them are implemented by local humanitarian organizations working in the field and in many cases associated with churches or organizations for the promotion of men's, women's or children's rights.

45. Legal assistance is also important for the direct victims, who need to be defended in order to refute confessions made under torture, take action against their torturers or possibly obtain compensation. Relatives of deceased or missing torture victims also need legal assistance to lodge complaints against illegal acts that caused the death, to obtain bodies, to have forensic examinations carried out, to trace missing children, etc.

3. Training programmes and meetings of experts

46. The Fund also helps with the training of professional health specialists in the special techniques required in treating torture victims. For example, it pays travel costs and subsistence at specialized training centres for a

number of doctors, psychiatrists and psychologists from countries where no such training exists. The Fund also finances discussions, symposia and other meetings of experts at which practitioners from many countries can exchange information, data and experience and publicize the results of their work.

4. Establishment of centres

47. Assistance with the establishment of centres represents a further stage in training programmes which helps to provide a suitable working tool for a specific local situation. The centres can deal with all aspects of an individual's treatment (treatment centres) or assess victims' needs and the suffering endured and refer them to competent professionals (referral centres).

5. Publication and other information media

48. The Fund has assisted with the publication of various works designed to help torture victims. For example, it recently subsidized a publication of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies intended for the staff of societies engaged in refugee reception and including a chapter on the needs of and assistance to be given to refugees who are torture victims; according to information received by the Fund, they may account for 60-70 per cent of all refugees. In 1992, the Fund for the first time contributed a token sum to the production of a 52-minute film entitled "Off limits", which portrays the types of torture suffered and the treatment undergone by three torture victims.

D. Amount of grants

49. The increase in funding recommended by the Board of Trustees for 1991 corresponded to the balance available at the time of its annual meeting, in April. In April 1992, the Board, despite having allocated almost all ($1,610,000) of the funds available at that date to programmes, was unable to respond to all applications, which would have required more than US$ 3 million. The Board thus strongly encouraged States to increase their contributions and requested the secretariat to take various information and promotion steps to better inform them about the Fund. Some States contributions actually did increase in 1992, and pledges for 1993 are encouraging.

Table XVIII

Amount of grants

Year	Balance at 31 December	Recommendations a/ (in dollars)	Contributions (in dollars)
1981	133 140 b/		
1982	560 482	-	410 100.05
1983	764 583	268 200	361 846.89
1984	1 331 345	265 500	497 900.20
1985	1 391 390	263 700	515 859.59
1986	1 870 459	1 165 944	814 091.53
1987	1 989 729	837 800	783 602.33
1988	2 673 481	888 550	974 485.32
1989	2 875 715	486 400	735 679.46
1990	2 500 531	1 766 300	749 923.51
1991	2 097 761	2 238 700	1 096 449.14
1992	2 045 698 c/	1 610 000	1 204 339.98
TOTAL		9 791 094	8 144 278

a/ Recommendations of the Board of Trustees approved by the Secretary-General.

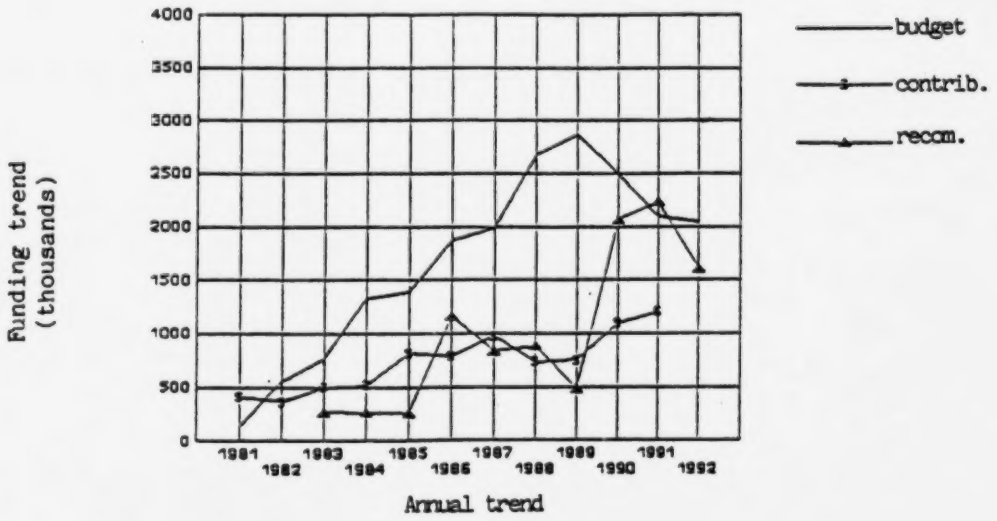
b/ Remaining amount of the Fund for Chile.

c/ Balance as at 31 October 1992.

50. In accordance with the regulations applicable to voluntary funds, a reserve of 15 per cent of estimated annual expenditures must be maintained and may not be used for grants; 13 per cent is earmarked for programme support costs.

Figure 5

Annual trend



E. Geographical distribution of projects and programmes

1. Africa

51. Fourteen programmes in Africa have received a total of $327,000. It should also be noted, however, that certain organizations, such as AVRE in France and SOS-Torture in Switzerland, receive financing of which a part goes to activities in the field, including Africa. Table XIX takes account only of programmes being carried out in a specific country.

Table XIX

Programmes carried out in Africa

State and project numbers	Number of projects and programmes	Number of organizations	Amount paid (in dollars)
1. South Africa			
P38			20 000
P67	4	4	15 000
P86			*
P134			15 000
2. Guinea			
P112	1	1	*
3. Kenya			
P12 B and C a/	3	1	57 000
P050			*
4. Morocco			
P172	2	2	5 000
P28			15 000
5. Uganda			
P059			170 000
P077	2	2	*
6. Sudan			
P058	1	1	30 000
7. Chad			
P155	1	1	*
TOTAL	14	12 b/	327 000

Notes: The asterisk means that the planned grant was not paid because the requirements of the Board of Trustees were not met.

a/ A, B, etc. are subprogrammes.

b/ Ten organizations, in fact, because a single organization may carry out a programme in several countries.

2. North America

52. The organizations established in Canada and the United States assist many refugees and asylum seekers from third world countries.

Table XX

Programmes carried out in North America

State and project numbers	Number of projects and programmes	Number of organizations	Amount paid (in dollars)
1. United States			
P079			165 000
P102			31 000
P115	4	4	15 000
P118			8 000
2. Canada			
P111			40 000
P150			25 000
P151	6	6	12 000
P167			15 000
P168			*
P173			*
TOTAL	10	10	311 000

Note: The asterisk means that the planned grant was not paid because the requirements of the Board of Trustees were not met.

3. South America and the Caribbean

53. The programmes carried out in Chile are still the main beneficiaries of financing (35 per cent). They are closely followed by those in Uruguay (25 per cent) and in Argentina (24 per cent).

Table XXI

Programmes carried out in South America and the Caribbean

State and project numbers	Number of projects and programmes	Number of organizations	Amount paid (in dollars)
1	2	3	4
1. Argentina			
P011			271 000
P015			*
P029			146 000
P041			62 000
P049			40 000
P064			*
P092			*
P099 A, B and C a/	16	12	227 700
P107			8 500
P132			*
P133			*
P146			40 000
P166			15 000
P170			*
2. Belize b/			
P026	3	1	34 600
3. Brazil			
P068	1	1	68 000
4. Chile			
P004 A and B a/			120 000
P007			30 000
P010			765 000
P053			1 500
P080	11	8	*
P082			190 000
P101			30 500
P139			10 000
P140			30 000
P160			8 000
5. Colombia			
P062	2	2	*
P161			*
6. Costa Rica			
P026	2	1	21 000
P104			25 000
7. El Salvador			0
P003 A and B a/			110 000
P063	4	4	*
P121			50 000

1	2	3	4
8. Guatemala P091	1	1	30 000
9. Haiti			
P096			30 000
P097	2	2	20 000
10. Honduras			
P106 A and B a/	2	1	90 000
11. Mexico			
P060	1	1	22 844
12. Nicaragua			
P093	1	1	*
13. Panama c/			
P026	-	-	*
14. Paraguay			
P088	2	2	2 000
P126			26 000
15. Peru			
P056			*
P125	3	3	20 000
P175			*
16. Uruguay			
P020			7 000
P021			25 000
P022			240 000
P023			4 000
P027			215 000
P030			25 000
P042			225 000
P044	12	10	53 000
P074			45 000
P122			5 000
P123			3 500
P124			3 000
17. Dominican Rep.			
P026 d/	-	-	-
TOTAL	63	50 e/	3 395 144

Notes: The asterisk means that the grant planned was not paid because the requirements of the Board of Trustees were not met.

a/ A, B, etc. are subprogrammes.

b/ There are, in fact, three programmes which are being carried out in Belize, in Panama and in the Dominican Republic.

c/ This is the same project as the one in Belize.

d/ This is the same project as the one in Belize and Panama.

e/ Thirty-six organizations, in fact, because a single organization may carry out a programme in several countries.

4. Asia and Middle East

54. The programmes being carried out in the Philippines, with 51 per cent of the amount are the main beneficiaries of the financing.

Table XXII

Programmes carried out in Asia and the Middle East

State and project numbers	Number of projects and programmes	Number of organizations	Amount paid (in dollars)
1. Bangladesh			
P035	1	1	13 750
2. Korea			
P006			40 000
P162	2	2	*
3. India			
P152	1	1	32 000
4. Jordan			
P137 A and B a/	2	1	*
5. Nepal			
P148	2	2	36 000
P171			5 000
6. Pakistan			
P066	3	3	227 500
P100 A and B a/			
7. Philippines			
P013			41 500
P032			215 000
P034			40 000
P084 A, B, and C a/			25 000
P085 A and B a/	11	9	90 000
P110			20 000
P113			70 000
P149			10 000
8. Sri Lanka			
P069			60 000
P098			*
P163	4	2	10 000
P164			30 000
9. Territories occupied by Israel			
P120	1	1	30 000
TOTAL	27	22 b/	995 750

Notes: The asterisk means that the grant planned was not paid because the requirements of the Board of Trustees were not met.

a/ A, B, etc. are subprogrammes.

b/ Twenty organizations, in fact, because a single organization may carry out a programme in several countries.

/...

5. Europe

55. The organizations established in Belgium, Denmark, France, the United Kingdom and Switzerland also finance projects in third world countries and certain centres, such as COMEDE in France, give assistance every year to thousands of refugees and asylum seekers from third world countries where they have undergone torture.

Table XXIII

Programmes carried out in Europe

State and project numbers	Number of projects and programmes	Number of organizations	Amount paid (in dollars)
1	2	3	4
1. Germany			
P116	2	2	50 000
P174			12 000
2. Austria			
P169	1	1	10 000
3. Belgium			
P019	1	1	145 000
4. Bulgaria			
P154	1	1	*
5. Denmark			
P008			70 000
P142 A, B, C, D and F a/	8	1	27 000
P135			30 000
P136			25 000
6. France			
P016			223 600
P028 A, B, C, D and E a/	7	3	286 000
P013			6 000
7. Norway			
P039	2	2	*
P114			10 000
8. Netherlands			
P128			10 000
P176	4	4	*
P177			*
P178			*
9. Romania			
P165	1	1	*

1	2	3	4
10. United Kingdom			
P36 A and B a/			495 000
P076	4	3	50 000
P156			25 000
11. Sweden			
P025 A, B, C and D a/	4	1	107 000
12. Switzerland			
P045			295 000
P108			8 500
P109	7	4	3 000
P117			5 000
P119			26 400
P143 A and B a/			35 000
13. Turkey			
P087			3 000
P105	2	2	100 000
Total	44	26	2 058 000

a/ A, B, etc., are subprogrammes.

Table XXIV

Summary table of geographical distribution

States	Number of programmes	Number of organizations	Amounts paid (in dollars)
1. Africa	14	10	327 000
2. North America	10	10	311 000
3. South America and Caribbean	63	36	3 395 144
4. Asia and Middle East	27	20	995 750
5. Europe	44	26	2 058 000
6. Miscellaneous a/	2	-	110 000
Total	160	102 b/	7 196 894

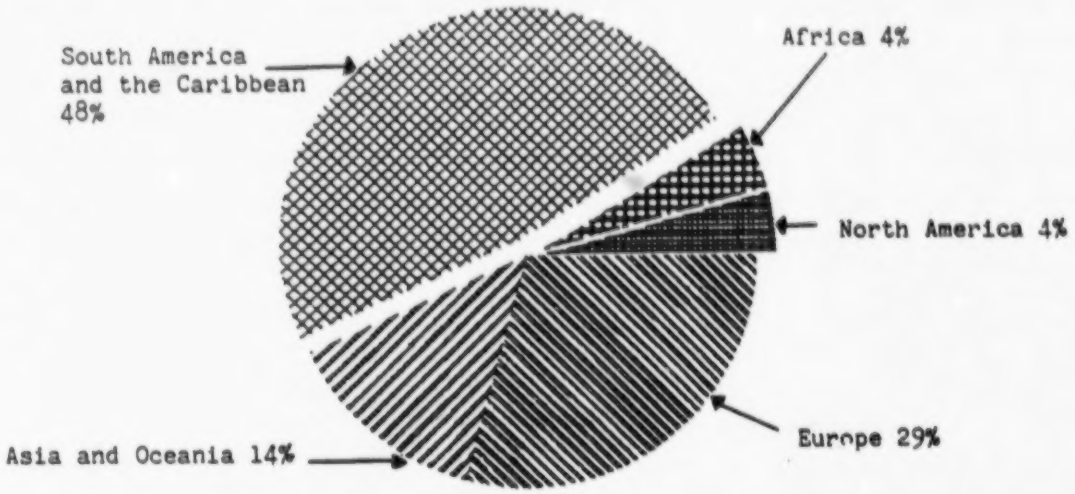
a/ Grants recommended by the Board of Trustees where needed for urgent action ($100,000; see para. 36) and as a reserve ($10,000).

b/ This is the actual number of organizations carrying out programmes in the regions, but it must be borne in mind that an organization may also have programmes in other regions.

56. By 30 November 1992, the Board of Trustees had made recommendations for a total amount of $10,091,394 and the programmes for which grants were actually paid totalled $7,196,894. This clearly shows that the secretariat of the Fund and the Board are scrupulously applying the directives which require that fully satisfactory information be received before a grant may be released, since only 62 per cent of the recommendations were actually followed by grant payments.

Figure 6

Financing of programmes



The programmes carried out in South America and the Caribbean obtain more than half of the financing. It should also be noted that the financing granted to Europe and Canada is in part reallocated to programmes in the third world, particularly in South America.

57. Certain organizations which carry out projects and certain organizations which agree to serve as channels for the delivery of humanitarian assistance provided by the Fund have expressly asked for the Fund's support not to be revealed, because the mere mention of torture might endanger victims, care personnel, projects or organizations. Since 1981 the secretariat has always heeded this wish. A list of the organizations which have authorized the secretariat of the Fund to mention the provision of grants is to be found in appendix I.

IV. FUND-RAISING ACTIVITY

A. Resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights

58. In its resolution 36/151 of 16 December 1981, establishing the Fund, the General Assembly authorized the Board of Trustees of the Fund to promote and solicit contributions and pledges. The General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to give the Board of Trustees all the assistance it might require and appealed to all Governments to respond favourably through requests for contributions to the Fund.

59. Thereafter, the General Assembly, like the Commission on Human Rights, made it a yearly practice to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the activity of the Fund and its Board of Trustees and to express gratitude and appreciation to Governments, organizations and private individuals who had contributed to the Fund. It called upon all Governments, organizations and private individuals in a position to do so to respond favourably to requests for initial as well as further contributions to the Fund. It also invited Governments to make contributions, preferably on a regular basis, so as to enable the Fund to provide continuous support to projects that depend on recurrent grants.

60. In 1990, the General Assembly, in resolution 45/175, in the context of the rationalization of the programme of work, decided to adopt resolutions concerning the Fund on a biennial basis only, and postponed the next resolution until 1993. The Commission on Human Rights has not changed its practice and annually adopts a resolution encouraging voluntary contributions, that is brought to the attention of States.

B. Letters to States

61. As requested by the General Assembly in 1991, in 1992 the secretariat sent a letter signed by the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights and by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Fund to all Ministers for Foreign Affairs to request them to contribute to the Fund or to increase their contributions (in the case of regular donors), with a view to taking action on the large deficit in the funds available in 1992.

C. Action by members of the Board of Trustees and non-governmental organizations

62. The members of the Board of Trustees have made efforts to encourage voluntary contributions to the Fund. At the Board's last session in 1992, they committed themselves to taking steps vis-à-vis their respective Governments, in some cases to obtain an initial contribution and in others to double the contribution. It is worthy of note that pledges by Japan and Netherlands for 1993 have doubled, perhaps as a result of the steps taken by the members of the Board of Trustees who are nationals of those States.

63. In October 1992, during the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, the Chairman, with the assistance of the Netherlands Mission to the United Nations at New York and the Liaison Office of the United Nations Centre for Human Rights, organized a meeting with some 15 States interested in

contributing to the Fund, and another meeting with a dozen interested non-governmental organizations.

64. Some non-governmental organizations report to members of the Board of Trustees or the secretariat on steps which they have taken or intend to take vis-à-vis various Governments, specifically the Governments of Chile, the United States and the United Kingdom in 1992, to inform them of their support for the Fund's activities.

65. However, as noted earlier, fund-raising is basically restricted to approaches made to States.

66. The secretariat of the Fund had originally been unsuccessfull in its contacts with foundations. At its eleventh session, the Board of Trustees of the Fund suggested that new sources of finance (companies, foundations, etc.) should be approached. However, the shortage of staff in the Fund secretariat meant that it could not take this step since it needs to concentrate its activity on project and programme follow-up and on implementing the Board's recommendations approved by the Secretary-General.

V. PROMOTION OF THE FUND

A. Documentation for the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights

67. Every year, the Secretary-General submits a report on the activities of the Fund to these two bodies. The report makes reference to resolution 36/151, which led to the creation of the Fund, and lists all the contributions received in the course of the year. Information supplied by the Chairman and guidelines adopted by the Board of Trustees for better assisting the Fund secretariat to continue with its activity are annexed to the report.

B. General information

68. Few articles deal with the Fund, with the exception of the United Nations Yearbook on Human Rights from 1981 to 1987, the Human Rights Newsletter published by the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and the article by Mr. Hans Danelius mentioned in the introduction (see para. 4). The present consolidated report is therefore only the second one that tries to give a detailed picture of the Fund's activities. A pamphlet is being prepared with the title "How you can help victims of torture"; it will be distributed in English, Spanish and French, and should be available at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on Human Rights.

69. There is also a videocassette on torture victims called "Off limits", made by Isabella Benkemoun and Francis Allegret (France) on torture, its consequences and the course of treatment followed by a number of victims. Some VHS cassettes in NTSC, PAL and SECAM are available on loan by the secretariat of the Fund to United Nations experts, competent organizations and secretariat staff who wish to use them for lectures, symposia, training sessions, etc. The cassette is in French and subtitled in English. A version in Spanish is being prepared.

C. Miscellaneous activities

1. Chairman and members of the Board

70. The Chairman of the Board of Trustees has visited several projects in Canada for the Fund (see the previous report to the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/1992/16, annex). The Chairman also visited the Centre for Victims of Torture in Minneapolis, in the United States. He prepared a brief information note on the Fund, annexed to the report to the General Assembly (A/47/662, annex), addressed to States which might be interested in making a voluntary contribution. The other members of the Board of Trustees also refer to the Fund's activities in the context of their own human rights activities or when they are invited to conferences on the subject.

2. Other United Nations experts

71. The Chairman of the Committee against Torture, Mr. Voyame, and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, Mr. Kooijmans, are regularly informed of the Fund's activities and refer to them as necessary. The Secretary-General's report to the Commission on Human Rights also keeps other experts abreast of the Fund's activities. Three experts of the Committee against Torture are currently using the "Off limits" videocassette: Mr. Dipanda Mouelle, Mr. Lorenzo and Mr. Voyame.

3. Secretariat of the Fund

72. The secretariat of the Fund widely distributes the reports prepared for the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights to individuals or organizations contacting the Fund, and also at relevant conferences held in the Palais des Nations at Geneva. In October 1992, the Secretary of the Fund was invited to the symposium organized in Istanbul by the Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims of Copenhagen and the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey, a symposium that was attended by some 30 organizations which assist torture victims. It afforded an opportunity to describe to these bodies how the Fund works and the criteria for submitting applications. New projects may possibly come out of this initiative in 1993.

CONCLUSION

73. Despite limited means and the little time available for fund-raising, the Fund has proved a useful tool with which many programmes of assistance to torture victims and their families have been successfully conducted over the last 10 years.

74. The General Assembly has thanked the Board of Trustees of the Fund for the work done and the Secretary-General for his support to the Board and the implementation of decisions on an increasing number of projects. In this regard, it should be noted that the Board on several occasions informed the Secretary-General of its concern that sufficient staff and computer equipment should be allocated to the secretariat of the Fund to cope with a workload that grows greater every year. The Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights assured the Board of Trustees that he regarded the successful operation of the

Fund's secretariat as a matter of the highest importance and said it was his intention to make available to the secretariat adequate means to enable the Fund to carry out its activities in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly.

75. The existence of the Fund is a constant reminder to all Governments that assistance to the direct and the indirect victims (relatives of persons who have been tortured) is the responsibility of States until such time as torture has been finally eliminated, in accordance with the obligations contained in many United Nations international instruments on prohibition of torture.

76. Some cases show that victims are still suffering from the consequences many years after they have been tortured. Even when torture has been eliminated, it will still prove necessary to continue to provide them with assistance.

77. The grants paid out by the Fund, in addition to providing the organizations with indispensable financial support, enable them to seek additional financing, strengthen the credibility of the programmes of assistance to torture victims and to some extent protect medical staff, who are sometimes subjected to considerable pressures, and even threats of death or torture.

Appendix I

List of organizations which have authorized the Fund secretariat to mention the grants made

ALDHU	Asociacion Latinoamericana para Los Derechos Humanos, Montevideo (Uruguay)
ATYHA	Centro de Alternativas en Salud Mental, Asuncion (Paraguay)
AVRE	Association pour les victimes de la répression en exil, Paris (France)
BALAY	Balay Rehabilitation Centre, Manila (Philippines)
Behandlungszentrum für Folteropfer	Treatment Centre for Torture Victims, Berlin (Germany)
CCVT	Centre canadien pour les victims de le torture, Toronto (Canada)
CEPSOC	Consultation en services psycho-sociaux et communautaires, Montreal (Canada)
CIIS	California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, (United States)
CINTRAS	Centro de Salud Mental y Derechos Humanos, Santiago (Chile)
CODESEDH	Comité para la Defensa de la Salud, la Etica Profesional y los Derechos Humanos, Buenos Aires (Argentina)
COMEDE	Comité médical pour les exilés, Paris (France)
Swedish Red Cross,	Stockholm (Sweden)
CVICT	Centre for the Victims of Torture, Kathmandu (Nepal)
CVT	Centre for Victims of Torture, Minneapolis (United States)
EATIP	Equipo Argentino de Trabajo e Investigacion Psicosocial, Buenos Aires (Argentina)
EXIL	Centre médico-psychosocial pour réfugiés, Bruxelles (Belgium)
FASIC	Fundacion de Ayuda Social de las Iglesias Cristianas, Santiago (Chile)
FILMS D'ICI	Francis Allegret et Isabelle Benkemoun, auteurs du film "Raisons d'Etat" ("Off limits"), Paris (France)

/...

HCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Geneva (Switzerland)
HRFT	Human Rights Foundation of Turkey, Ankara (Turkey)
Iglesia metodista.	Punta Arenas (Chile)
INHURED INTERNATIONAL	Institute for Human Rights, Environment and Development - International, Kathmandu (Nepal)
JKCHR	Jammu and Kashmir Council for Human Rights, London (United Kingdom)
LAPPH	Ligue des anciens prisonniers politiques haïtiens, des amis et parents des disparus, Port-au-Prince (Haïti)
League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies,	Geneva (Switzerland)
Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture,	London (United Kingdom)
MIDU	Mutualista Israelita Del Uruguay, Montevideo (Uruguay)
PIOOM	The PIOOM Foundation, Leiden (Netherlands)

Prisoners of Conscience Appeal Fund, London (United Kingdom)

RCT	Rehabilitation and Research Centre for Torture Victims, Copenhagen, (Denmark)
RIVO	Réseau d'intervention auprès des victimes de la violence organisée, Montréal (Canada)
SELDA	Society of Ex-detainees for Liberation against Detention and for Amnesty, Manila (Philippines)
SOS-TORTURE	Organisation mondiale contre la torture, Geneva, (Swizerland)

Suvivors International of Northern California, Berkeley, (United States)

Tortura Nunca Mais, Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)

University of Copenhagen,	Institute of Medical Physiology, Copenhagen (Denmark)
VAT	Voice Against Torture, Islamabad (Pakistan)
ZEBRA	Zentrum zur sozialmedizinischen, rechtlichen und kilturellen betreuung von Ausländern und Ausländerinnen in Österreich, Graz (Austria)

Appendix II

Guidelines for organizations on how to apply for grants

Submitting applications for grants

Mandate of the Fund

General Assembly resolution 36/151 established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture to receive voluntary contributions from governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals for distribution as humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of torture and to relatives of such victims.

Resolution 36/151 provides that the Fund's aid is to be distributed "through established channels of assistance", which has been interpreted to mean that the assistance will be provided through existing humanitarian organizations to projects or to initiate projects sponsored or administered by these humanitarian organizations. The Voluntary Fund does not directly administer projects nor does it give assistance directly to individuals. The practice of the Board of Trustees, which advises the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the use of the contributions, is to recommend projects falling essentially in the following fields: psychotherapy, medical care, social rehabilitation and training of professionals and volunteers (doctors, psychologists, physiotherapists, paramedical personnel, social workers, etc.) for the specialized treatment of torture victims and to assist the relatives of victims with their psychological, economic and social problems. It contributes to the development and application of suitable treatments for torture victims.

Submission of applications

When submitting a request for funding, organizations should duly fill in a project description form (see appendix III), indicating clearly the title of the project, the countries covered, the type of assistance offered, the organization and person in charge of the project, the sponsoring organization, as well as the mailing address, telephone and fax number. The organization should indicate the bank to which a grant may be transferred, its address, account number and the name of the beneficiary, which is, in general, the name of the organization or the project officer. Information should include the number and nationalities of the torture victims and the specific needs that the project will address, the type of assistance needed, details on how the project will directly benefit the victim and the relatives, the geographical area covered, the staff required, as well as the envisaged duration and steps of the project. The organization should also indicate if the project is already functioning.

The application should also indicate what other resources have or are expected to be made available to the project. A detailed budget should be provided indicating both the overall cost of the project and the exact amount requested from the Fund. Figures should appear in local currency and in United States dollars.

Projects will be considered strictly confidential if the organization presenting the project so wishes.

Projects should be addressed to the secretariat of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (UNVFVT), Centre for Human Rights, CH 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

The applications for grants are examined by the Board of Trustees in April. The Board makes recommendations for grants to the Secretary-General, who decides, after having checked all the information available. Organizations presenting requests for grants are informed of the decisions of the Secretary-General by mail when this examination is finished, which may be in July or August. If a grant has been awarded, it is transferred from the United Nations bank to the bank account mentioned in the project description form. The organization receiving a grant is requested to acknowledge receipt and to submit by 31 December a narrative report, a financial report and an auditors' report on the use of the grant for victims of torture and members of their family.

Appendix III

Project description form

1. Short title /
   Nom abrégé /
   Nombre abreviado :

2. Date submitted / de soumission / Fecha de sumisión :
3. Countries concerned / Pays concernés / Países interesados :

4. Type of assistance offered / type d'aide offerte / tipo de asistencia ofrecida :

a)	Medical / Médicale / Médica	[ ]	e)	Meetings / Réunions / Reuniones :	[ ]
b)	Psychological / Psychologique /Psicológica	[ ]	f)	Publications / Publicaciones :	[ ]
c)	Social / Social	[ ]	g)	Research / Recherche / Investigación :	[ ]
d)	Training of professional s/ Formation de professionnels / Formación de profesionales	[ ]	h)	Other (specify) / Autres (préciser) / Otros (precisar)	

5. Sponsoring organization /
   Organisation patronnant le projet /
   Organización patrocinadora del proyecto :

6. Organization and person in charge of the project /
   Organisation et personne responsables du projet /
   Organización y persona responsable del proyecto :

   Mailing address /
   Adresse postale /
   Dirección postal :

   Tel..:
   Fax :
   Telex :

7. Bank of your organization, address, payee, account No. /
   Banque de votre organisation, adresse, bénéficiaire, No de compte /
   Banco de su organización, dirección, beneficiario, No de cuenta :

8. Detailed summary of assistance to be provided to victims of torture /
   Résumé détaillé de l'aide à fournir aux victimes de la torture /
   Resumen detallado de la ayuda que se prestará a las víctimas de la tortura :

   a) Kind of assistance /
      Type d'aide /
      Tipo de ayuda :

   b) Number and nationalities of persons assisted /
      Nombre et nationalités des personnes aidées /
      Número y nacionalidades de las personas objeto de la ayuda :

   c) Geographical area covered /
      Aire géographique couverte /
      Area geográfica cubierta :

   d) Staff required /
      Personnel requis /
      Personal que se necesitará :

   e) Envisaged duration and steps of projects /
      Durée et étapes envisagées du projet /
      Duración y etapas previstas del proyecto :

9. Please annex a budget, indicating the total amount needed for the whole project, the amount requested from the Fund and its envisaged use / Veuillez joindre un budget indiquant le montant total du projet, ainsi que le montant demandé au Fonds et son affectation / Adjúnte un presupuesto del gasto total del proyecto, señalando qué parte solicita al Fondo, así como el destino de éste.

Total amount needed for the project : _____ (US$)
Montant total du projet /
Monto global para el proyecto

Amount requested from the Fund for this project : _____ (US$)
Montant demandé au Fonds pour ce projet /
Monto solicitado al Fondo para el proyecto

10. Please detail clearly below the part of the project budget you are requesting the Fund to support /
Détaillez ci-dessous la partie du budget affectée à votre projet que vous sollicitez du Fonds /
Detállese la parte del presupuesto destinada a su proyecto que se solicita del Fondo :

11. General budget of your organization /
Budget général de votre organisation /
Presupuesto general de su organización :

12. Other sources of financing /
Autres sources de financement /
Otras fuentes de financiación :

13. Please indicate if this project is already functioning and if it is a new project or a new aspect of an existing project /
Veuillez indiquer si ce projet fonctionne déjà et s'il s'agit d'un nouveau projet ou d'un nouvel aspect d'un project existant /
Detállese si este proyecto ya funciona y si es un proyecto nuevo o si se trata de un aspecto nuevo de un proyecto existente :

14. Please indicate the envisaged starting date /
Veuillez indiquer sa date prévue de démarrage /
Indíquese la fecha de comienzo prevista :

15. Will you develop this project with other organizations (please specify) ? / Développerez-vous ce projet avec d'autres organisations (veuillez détailler) / Sírvase especificar si este proyecto se desarollará en conjunto con otras organizaciones:

16. Organizations or specialists on the treatment of victims of torture accepting to offer reference for this project :
Organisations ou spécialistes dans le traitement de victimes de la torture acceptant de servir de référence pour ce projet :
Organizaciones o especialistas en el tratamiento de víctimas de la tortura que aceptan servir de referencia para este proyecto :

- NOTA BENE -

The Board of Trustees gives priority to funding medical, psychological, social and, to a smaller degree, economic assistance, as directly as possible, to victims of torture and their families. The assistance may cover administrative expenses if it is to support the costs of doctors, psychologists, therapists and others helping victims of torture and their families / Le Conseil d'administration donne, en priorité, son soutien à une aide médicale, psychologique, sociale et, à un moindre degré, économique, aussi directe que possible aux victimes de la torture et leurs familles. Ce soutien peut couvrir des frais administratifs s'ils sont directement liés au travail des médecins, psychologues, thérapeutes et autres professionnels qui assistent les victimes et leurs familles / La Junta de Síndico. Ja prioridad a la asistencia médica, psicológica, social y, en menor grado, económica, dirigida lo más directamente posible a víctimas de la tortura y sus familiares. La asistencia puede concederse para gastos administrativos si están relacionados directamente con el trabajo de médicos, psicólogos, terapeutas y otros que ayuden a las víctimas y sus familiares.

/...

Appendix IV

Guidelines for organizations on how to report on the use of grants

Reporting on the use of grants from the Fund

For every project which receives assistance from the Fund, the Board of Trustees of the Fund requires an acknowledgement of receipt of the grant, a narrative report, a financial report on the use of the grant and an auditors' report.

What are the deadlines?

These reports must be submitted not later than 31 December of the year in which the grant is received. The reports are considered at the next meeting of the Board, in April of the following year.

If the acknowledgement of receipt of the grant, the narrative report, the financial report, the auditors' report and any additional information requested by the secretariat do not reach it within a certain period of time, and no explanation is given for the delay, the person in charge of the project will be notified by the secretariat that he or she must return the amount of the grant to the Fund.

What should the narrative report contain?

The narrative report should, in all cases, give: (a) the number of torture victims and family members who have received assistance from your organization in general, and, in particular, the number who have received assistance through the Fund (the identities of these individuals should not be revealed); (b) the type of torture involved; (c) medical and psychological care and any other type of assistance provided from the Fund grant; and (d) an evaluation of the results.

Please give the name(s) of the professional(s) who are specialized in treating or assisting torture victims and supervise the project within your organization.

If you cooperate with any other United Nations agency in carrying out your project in the field (UNHCR, UNDP, UNESCO, UNICEF, or others), please give details about such cooperation.

Any document of more than five pages which you might wish to add to the narrative report on the project must be accompanied by a one- to two-page summary in English.

What should the financial report contain?

All the amounts should be given in national currency and in United States dollars.

The financial report should include the general accounts of your organization in addition to the budget breakdown for any Fund-assisted project and should specify how the Fund's grant was allocated. The Board would like the Fund's contribution and the way it is allocated to be clearly indicated in your accounts. A detailed description of expenditures out of the grant should be submitted.

The Board would like the comments of your organization's auditors to be submitted with the annual financial report or as quickly as possible.

What additional documents should be provided?

The Board would like, if possible, for Fund-assisted organizations to submit any medical certificates or records of interviews with torture victims that they have available, without mentioning the names of the victims and provided such submissions do not pose a threat to the victims.

If your organization assists a significant number of victims, the Board would appreciate statistical data on those victims.

Additional information

To assist us in reviewing the information requested, please follow these guidelines:

1. Replies to any requests from us for additional information should be no more than two pages long;

2. For greater safety in paying out grants, the Fund secretariat prefers to make the payments by bank transfer; if you have changed your bank, bank branch or account number, please let us know as soon as possible and keep us informed of any changes in the future; we would also like you to fill out and send us an acknowledgement of receipt as soon as you have received the amount of the grant;

3. In accordance with a standing recommendation of the Board, recipients of Fund grants are asked: (a) to seek additional sources of financing; (b) as a general rule, not to count on financing from the Fund that is more than one third of the project budget; and (c) not to expect automatic renewal of the grant each year. Every organization may submit a new request for funding each year, using the project description form, but there is no guarantee that new funding will be granted.

Please inform us whether the Fund's assistance to your project and your organization should be considered as confidential or whether it can be mentioned in documents such as the reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly and to the Commission on Human Rights.

Appendix V

Guidelines prepared by the Fund

Provisional set of procedures and guidelines adopted by the Board of Trustees

Introduction

1. With an increasing number of contributions and requests for assistance, the highest standards should be applied to procedures followed by the Board and the Fund secretariat. Accordingly, at its ninth session, in 1990, the Board decided to start reviewing its own procedures and the guidelines for applications for grants. The following guidelines and procedures were recommended by the Fund's Board of Trustees at its ninth, tenth and eleventh sessions and approved by the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights.

2. The Board established that, in order to be able to examine the work of the secretariat on the projects approved, the new projects received, the grants disbursed or pending, the narrative, financial and auditors' reports received, and to make recommendations to the Secretary-General on grants to be disbursed, it should meet, as a rule, for eight working days.

3. The Board recommended that it should meet in principle in April of each year, starting in April 1991. Part of its session should be scheduled to coincide with part of the session of the Committee against Torture in order to be able to organize a meeting with the chairperson and members as well as with the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture.

4. By 1 April of each year, the Board should be informed of the exact amount of funds available, grants recommended, grants disbursed and pledges made.

5. As in the past, the focus of the Board is on supporting programmes providing direct medical, psychological, social or other assistance to torture victims and their family members. The Board insisted that the highest possible proportion of the money available to the Fund should be spent for assistance to victims of torture and their families.

6. The Board also made recommendations in support of training programmes for health professionals from different countries on the techniques for treating victims of torture, at which they could compare their experiences.

I. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS

7. Applications to hold and attend seminars and conferences should be made well in advance in order for the Board to consider them at its annual April session, and, if appropriate, attach conditions to the award of a grant. A follow-up activity, such as publication of the proceedings and documents of such meetings, is a standard condition.

8. At its tenth session, the Board discussed the possibility of setting a ceiling on funding for such projects. A proposal for a maximum amount of US$ 30,000 was made.

9. The Fund secretariat should prepare, for reference purposes, a list of all meetings financed by the Fund, indicating the regions where they took place, the type of conference and the outcome of such assistance for the treatment of victims of torture.

10. As a rule, the Board does not recommend setting up a new organization with money from the Fund.

11. As a rule, no project should depend on the Fund for more than a third of the project budget.

12. The Board does not consider projects received immediately before or during its annual session.

13. If the same organization presents similar projects, they should preferably be merged, for instance, with the first one submitted to the Fund.

14. The Fund secretariat should ask the organizations or persons receiving grants to give precise details of their bank account.

15. Application forms for presenting a project to the Fund should be inserted in the revised fact sheets on torture to be published and widely disseminated.

II. REPORTING ON THE USE OF GRANTS

16. The Fund secretariat should request organizations to indicate the total amount of their budget or provisional budget, the use made of the grants received from the Fund and the amount of money requested from the Fund, both in local currency and United States dollars (indicating the date of the exchange rate). In the charts prepared for the Board at its annual session, the Fund secretariat should indicate the rate applicable at the United Nations during the month of receipt.

17. The Fund secretariat should request organizations to indicate the number of patients treated free of charge, of those paying and what percentage they pay.

18. Every organization should try to provide medical certificates or other appropriate reports on interviews with torture victims, without mentioning the victim's names and provided that it does not endanger the victims and their families, in order to assess that a person has been tortured. If the organization treats a significant number of torture victims, a chart should be provided detailing the kinds of torture suffered, the kinds of medical psychological and other treatment given, etc. The Fund secretariat, upon request, is able to provide interested organizations with sample certificates, forms and charts.

19. In the case of certain projects, information may be requested from field officers and representatives of agencies such as UNDP. If those officials agree to visit an organization and submit an evaluation of the project, the Fund secretariat shall inform the organization concerned in advance. Where necessary, the Board may recommend that the Fund secretariat inform the local representatives of United Nations agencies of grants to projects in their area, so that they are aware of the Fund's relationship with the organizations

in charge of the projects. The person in charge of such projects shall be notified of this by the Fund secretariat.

20. New organizations should be requested to mention as references, in their description forms, any organizations or persons supporting their project. The Fund secretariat should prepare a list of internationally recognized organizations and persons in the field of treatment of victims of torture that may be consulted by the Board and the secretariat of the Fund.

21. Members of the Board, the above-mentioned internationally recognized persons or the Fund secretariat must be able to visit projects that pose problems, within their geographical region, for example one per year, and meet staff members of the organization implementing the project, in order better to understand and evaluate the work done and planned. The Fund secretariat should inform the organization concerned in advance that such a visit may take place. A short but detailed report on this visit should be prepared and circulated to the members of the Board.

22. The Fund secretariat should draft a specimen form to help organizations to present their financial report on the use of the grants awarded by the Fund.

23. All organizations sponsoring projects and receiving support from the Fund should be requested to seek other financial sources, since the Board feels that they should not become totally dependent on the Fund (see para. 11). They should be told not to expect automatic renewal of their grant, but that they may submit applications for new grants every year. Such applications should be received by the Fund secretariat by 31 December of each year in order to be considered by the Board at its meeting in April of the following year.

24. All organizations having received grants should be reminded to submit auditors' reports on their use. The Fund secretariat should insist on receiving accounting reports, but only insist on receiving audit reports on an ad hoc basis.

25. If no satisfactory narrative, financial and audit reports or acknowledgement receipts are received from a person in charge of a project over a certain period of time without any explanation, the Fund secretariat shall request him to reimburse the amount received.

26. The Fund secretariat should, when possible, reorganize the files and lists in order to merge projects presented by the same organization in a single file. However, organizations will be requested to continue to provide detailed information on each project and subproject.

III. COOPERATION WITH OTHER BODIES INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES CONCERNING TORTURE

27. As a follow-up to a suggestion made by Mr. Peter Kooijmans, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, description forms for submitting a new project to the Fund should be given to rapporteurs and staff members going on mission, in order to allow organizations concerned to obtain such forms directly.

28. The Fund secretariat, in cooperation with the secretariat of the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, of the Committee against Torture, of the Human Rights Committee and of other relevant organs and with the assistance of the Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the Committee against Torture, should prepare for the Board a basic reference text on the definition of victims of torture, direct or indirect. The following questions should be addressed in this respect: should the definition of victims of torture be narrowed or broadened; what are the kinds of psychological torture; what is the relationship between torture and corporal punishment, on the one hand, and enforced or involuntary disappearances, the death penalty and the conditions under which this sentence may be applied, as well as harsh conditions of detention and gross violations of human rights, on the other?

29. Cooperation was also requested by the Board and accepted by the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture and the Chairman of the Committee against Torture concerning access to non-confidential information available in their files, in order better to assess the situation in certain countries and the work of certain organizations.

30. After discussions with the Special Rapporteur on the question of torture, the Chairman of the Committee against Torture and representatives of organizations carrying out projects, the Board concluded that it was crucial in order to obtain positive results in the psychological treatment of direct and indirect victims of torture, and for the rehabilitation of victims, that States should be informed of the importance of punishing the torturers.

IV. EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

31. During inter-sessional periods, the Chairman may authorize emergency grants up to US$ 10,000 per request. For requests over US$ 10,000 (but not more than US$ 50,000), he shall seek, through the services of the Fund secretariat, the advice of at least two other members of the Board. An amount of US$ 100,000 has been recommended for that purpose.

32. In considering requests for emergency assistance, it should be kept in mind that assistance should, preferably, be "through established channels of assistance", in accordance with General Assembly resolution 36/151.

33. Where emergency cases are concerned, if any of the cases to be examined by the Board requires urgent action between sessions, the Chairman may, in conjunction with the Fund secretariat, take the necessary measures.

34. If the Fund secretariat receives any new emergency cases, it shall preferentially direct them towards the nearest specialized organization, in particular if the organization is financed by the Fund.

35. Once a case is no longer an emergency one, it shall be removed from the list.

V. INFORMATION ON THE FUND

36. In view of the relatively critical financial situation of the Fund, more publicity about torture and its consequences is needed to arouse both the interest of the general public and enlist its generosity. Moreover, publication of a special brochure on the Fund is recommended for those interested in applying for assistance from the Fund and for those wishing to contribute to it.

Appendix VI

List of individual donors

AUSTRALIA

1. Mr. Richard Batt
2. Mr. J.- F. Horwood
3. Mrs. Millie Mills
4. Mrs. Joyce Raymond

AUSTRIA

1. Mr. Heinrich Strakosch

CANADA

1. Mrs. Colette Brazeau
2. Mr. Marcel Jamault
3. Mr. William D. McNall
4. Mrs. Claudette Nantel
5. Mrs. Ethel North

SPAIN

1. Mr. Pedro Almazan

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

1. Mrs. Claudette Bass
2. Mr. Melton Brumfield
3. Mr. John H.E. Fried
4. Mrs. Bessie Horowitz
5. Mrs. Florena Kandall
6. Mr. Le Roy L. Lamborn
7. Mrs. Rita Maran
8. Mrs. Ann R. Rochter
9. Mr. Paul B. Sobin
10. Mrs. Cecilia A. Wirth

FRANCE

1. Mr. & Mrs. M.A. Couderc
2. Mr. J.- P. Freani
3. Mr. Noël Gaillard
4. Mr. Olivier Girardot

ITALY

1. Anonymous

NETHERLANDS

1. Mrs. Marianne H. Walkate
2. Mr. Jaap A. Walkate

UNITED KINGDOM

1. Anonymous
2. Mr. Keith Carmichael
3. Mrs. C.E.M. Chicken
4. Mrs. Leonie J. Hill
5. Mr. Alan F. Mace

SWEDEN

1. Mrs. Joanne S. Rowley

SWITZERLAND

1. Anonymous
2. Mrs. Linda Chiesa
3. Mr. Patrick Malone

ADDRESS NOT GIVEN

1. Anonymous (3 persons)
2. J.S. Marcus
3. Mr. Yaman Ors
4. Mr. Jose Sainz Rodriguez
5. Mr. W. Thomas

Annex II

ISTANBUL DECLARATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNCIL FOR TORTURE VICTIMS

A global appeal for the abolition of torture

Notwithstanding that the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights adopted in 1948 included the right to freedom from torture by specifying that "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment",

Notwithstanding that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights clearly indicates that this provision constitutes a prohibition to use of torture to which no exception can be tolerated,

Notwithstanding that the United Nations International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights underlines that even "in time of public emergency which threatens the life of the nation", no derogation to the prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment can be made,

- torture continues to be a fact of life perpetuated and tolerated by a large number of governments and other authorities in States Members of the United Nations in contradiction to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment adopted in 1984.

  This is especially the case in dictatorships and in other repressive forms of government which rely on torture and the threat of torture for the continued oppression of their populations.

  However, even in many countries where democratically elected governments have succeeded such repressive forms of government, torture continues to be practised in parts of the system which have not been affected by the political change.

  There is ample evidence to suggest that medical doctors and other health professionals are directly or indirectly, actively or passively, involved in these inhuman practices, thereby acting in contradiction to the World Medical Association's Declaration of Tokyo of 1975 and the United Nations Principles of Medical Ethics adopted in 1982.

  Against this tragic background the Fifth International Symposium on Torture and the Medical Profession, organized in Istanbul on 22-24 October 1992 by the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims in collaboration with the Human Rights Foundation of Turkey and the Turkish Medical Association, appeals to the United Nations and its Member States:

  - to live up to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

- to make a serious effort to remove the practice of government or government-inspired torture as part of political repression as well as interrogation or for any other purposes;

- to give the right to a detained or arrested person to demand a medical examination by an independent doctor* of his own choice before and after interrogation. The official report must include in detail the history and the findings of the physical examination of the case. The detained or arrested person must be permitted to read this report and the examination must be conducted outside the influences of the police or security forces;

- similarly, the family of a person alleged or suspected to have died as a result of torture should have the right to demand an independent post mortem examination of the body;

- to prosecute with diligence and effectiveness all cases of alleged or suspected torture and enact provisions for free legal aid for the victims;

- to establish the right to compensation for victims of torture and their dependents;

- to repeal all laws establishing impunity for torturers if these laws have been established by a non-democratic government;

- to protect by law and confirm by contracts of employment doctors and other health personnel at risk of being obliged to act in contradiction to established medical ethics especially regarding the non-involvement in torture;

- to include in the training curriculum of all health professionals and as part of the training of lawyers, police and the military, specific training programmes in ethical obligations and international and national law governing the behaviour of each professional group in relation to the practice of torture;

- to support the establishment of special independent centres offering treatment to torture victims;

and finally, as a matter of urgency:

- to increase national governments' contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture from the present totally inadequate sum of US$ 1.6 million for 1992 to reach $25 million in 1995 and at least $100 million in 1999.

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* In countries where doctors are not easily available they may be substituted by other authorized health professionals.

(Short of making contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture obligatory, which would be natural given the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, this could be done by setting each year minimum target sums for each country, indicating what ought to be the contribution according to the usual distribution of financial contributions to United Nations activities.)

WITH COLLECTIVE GOOD WILL AND POLITICAL DETERMINATION THE PRACTICE OF TORTURE COULD BE ERADICATED BY THE YEAR 2000.

HOWEVER, THE SAD LEGACY OF TORTURE - THE SCARS IN THE BODIES AND SOULS OF THE TORTURE SURVIVORS - WILL REMAIN WITH US AND REQUIRE PROFESSIONAL CARE AND SOCIAL ATTENTION FOR MANY YEARS TO COME.

Adopted by the IRCT Council and Bureau in Istanbul on 24 October 1992

Marina Berskovskaya Russia	Martin Bojar Czechoslovakia	Per Borgaa Sweden
William Curran United States of America	Ole Espersen President Denmark	Fleur Fisher United Kingdom
Inge Genefke Medical Director Denmark	Erik Holst Vice President Denmark	Hélène Jaffé France
James Jaranson United States of America	Darío Lagos Argentina	June Lopez Philippines
Veli Lök Turkey	Henrik Marcussen Denmark	Gregorio Martirena Uruguay
Mahboob Mehdi Pakistan	Jette Parker Switzerland	Maria Piniou-Kalli Greece
Thabo Rangaka South Africa	Ole Vedel Rasmussen Denmark	Knud Smidt-Nielsen Denmark
Bent Sørensen Denmark	Mario Vidal Chile	

endorsed by The Human Rights Foundation of Turkey

Yavuz Önen President	Mahmut Tali Öngören Secretary-General

and by The Turkish Medical Association

Selim Ölcer President	Sükrü Hatun Secretary-General

Annex III*

THE ROLE OF BOARDS OF TRUSTEES IN HUMAN RIGHTS ASSISTANCE FUNDS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In 1978, the United Nations began to develop a practice of assisting the Secretary-General in managing voluntary funds for human rights purposes through a board of trustees. The first such fund was the United Nations Trust Fund for Chile of 20 December 1978, followed by the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture of 16 December 1981; the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations of 13 December 1985 and the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of 17 December 1991. These funds generally all followed the Chile model. Other funds have been established without boards of trustees, the Decade against Discrimination Fund and the Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights.

2. Several questions arise in regard to boards of trustees of human rights funds; among them are the nature of the board, the appointment of the members of the board, and the powers and functions of the board.

II. NATURE OF A BOARD OF TRUSTEES

3. The above funds with boards of trustees were to be administered by the Secretary-General with the advice of a board of trustees composed of experts in their personal capacities. A certain confidentiality surrounds the advice given to the Secretary-General by the board, and the Secretary-General is not obliged to follow that advice, although in the immense majority of cases he has done so. As advisors to the Secretary-General, board members are chosen by him as individuals; they are not understood as representing countries or regions. This is different - both conceptually and procedurally - from boards of trustees appointed from countries or regional groups, for example those in the field of apartheid.

III. QUALIFICATIONS AND APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBERS

4. The personal qualifications required of board members have been stated as "wide experience of the situation in Chile"; "wide experience in the field of human rights" (torture fund), "relevant experience on issues affecting indigenous populations" and "relevant experience in the field of human rights and contemporary forms of slavery". The boards of the indigenous and slavery funds are appointed in consultation with the current Chairman of the Subcommission; at least one member of the indigenous fund's board "shall be a representative of a widely recognized organization of indigenous people".

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* Previously issued as E/CN.4/1993/61.

5. All boards - with the exception of that of the indigenous fund - are appointed "with due regard to equitable geographical distribution".

IV. FUNCTIONS OF BOARDS OF TRUSTEES

6. Boards of trustees have two principal functions: (a) to advise the Secretary-General on the administration of the fund, and (b) to promote and solicit contributions.

V. ADVICE ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND

7. As the activities of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture show, the function of advising on the administration of the fund can include: (a) developing long-term policy guidelines; (b) reviewing specific projects; (c) reviewing all financial aspects of the fund, including receipt and crediting of contributions, interest income, amount and use of programme support costs, disbursement modalities, use of funds in specific projects, including accounts and audits; (e) relations and cooperation with other organizations with regard to project evaluation, implementation and reporting; (f) secretarial support for the operation of the fund and implementation of board decisions and recommendations.

8. The Board of Trustees of the torture fund has developed its working methods to include the hearing of project sponsors and others, such as the Special Rapporteur on Torture, and on-site visits to evaluate projects.

9. The Board of Trustees of the torture fund also follows closely the internal Secretariat support for their activities with regard to staff and resources. The Chairman of the Board has maintained close contacts with the head of the Centre for Human Rights in that regard.

VI. SESSIONS OF A BOARD OF TRUSTEES

10. Normally, boards of trustees meet for one or two weeks a year. Initially, the Chile and torture boards met twice within about six months to establish their guidelines for work, to determine methods of project submission and to begin fund-raising activities. Thereafter, annual meetings have been the rule.

11. The two above-mentioned boards (Chile and torture) established frameworks for acting between sessions through consultations between the Chairman and the Secretariat, enlarged according to the needs to other members of the board. Decisions taken between sessions are reviewed at the following board session. The Chairman of the Board of the torture fund maintains continuous contact with the Secretariat on matters related to the fund.

VII. EXPENSES

12. The expenses of a board of trustees (travel and subsistence of members during a session) are paid from the fund. However, such expenses are covered by the interest income earned by contributions to the fund between deposit by the donors and disbursement to projects.

VIII. FUND RAISING

13. Board members - individually and as a group - give close attention to fund raising and communication with donors. Pamphlets and a film have been promoted by the Board of the torture fund and coordinated appeals have been undertaken.

Annex IV

ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND FOR VICTIMS OF TORTURE

Information provided by the Chairman of the Board

1. The developments taking place in the world over the past few years have led to an ever increasing number of refugees and victims of torture. The centres for treatment of such victims have been confronted over the past year with much larger numbers of persons seeking medical help and economic, social and financial assistance. Therefore, the Board of Trustees has been seized with several requests for higher amounts of money. At its twelfth session, held at Geneva from 19 to 28 April 1993, the Board dealt with requests for assistance totalling more than $4 million and faced the necessity of having to limit its recommendations for grants by the Secretary-General to half of the amounts requested.

2. The Board very much appreciated that a few weeks before the session, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights sent a letter to regular donor Governments and to those who had made pledges, asking them to pay their contributions for the current year before the twelfth session, thereby enabling the Board to take into consideration an additional amount of $469,367 (33 per cent of the amount available at the 1st meeting of the twelfth session) when recommending grants. The Board recommended that similar action be taken next year.

3. Although the financial situation of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture has improved this year thanks to the positive replies of several Governments to the fund-raising campaign launched in 1992 by the Board of Trustees, at its twelfth session the Board insisted that additional resources were still needed to meet a growing demand totalling more than $4 million in 1992-1993 (see annex VI)

4. During its twelfth session, the Board of Trustees of the Fund examined information prepared by the secretariat concerning 135 projects, including analyses of narrative reports, financial reports and audits on the use of grants made in previous years, as well as requests for continuing assistance and new projects. The Board also scrutinized 76 applications for grants and heard 18 representatives of organizations implementing 39 projects.

5. The Board of Trustees recommended that 69 grants be made from the Fund in 50 countries for the partial funding of 67 projects to relieve the suffering of the tens of thousands of victims by obtaining for them medical or psychological support, opportunities for social or economic reintegration, and legal or financial assistance involving expenditures of approximately $2,111,880 for 1993.

6. The Board recommended that 16 applications for grants be declared inadmissible because they were outside the Fund's mandate or because further particulars were needed. The Board also recommended that 22 files of terminated projects be closed.

7. As in the past, the focus of the Board's latest recommendations is on supporting programmes providing direct medical, psychological, social or other assistance to torture victims and members of their families. The Board has also made recommendations for support to training programmes for health professionals of several countries on the techniques of treatment of victims of torture, as well as for meetings of health professionals, at which they could exchange their experience.

8. The Board recommends four new guidelines dealing with the consideration of applications for grants, the reporting procedure, pledges, refunding of grants, termination of projects and the established channels of assistance. Those guidelines are contained in annex V.

9. The Board very much appreciated the contribution of Rank Xerox S.A., Geneva, which provided services free of charge, allowing the secretariat of the Fund to make 17,000 copies on time for the twelfth session. It encouraged new initiatives by the Secretariat aiming at facilitating the work of the staff of the Fund and obtaining voluntary contributions from the private sector.

10. The Board took note of the fact that the secretariat of the Fund had had to analyse 40 per cent more projects in 1992-1993, expressed its continuous concern for the staffing of the secretariat of the Fund and, in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/38, paragraph 6, requested the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of adequate staff for the operations of the Fund. The Board very much appreciated the efforts undertaken by the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights to obtain temporary assistance for eight months for the analysis of an increasing number of projects. While aware of the financial crisis the Secretariat faces, the Board expressed the wish that the Secretariat take special measures to secure the positions of the staff of the Fund. The Board also noted with pleasure that the request made in previous years concerning adequate computer equipment had been met.

11. The Board expressed its appreciation for the support given to the Board by the secretariat in carrying out its recommendations on an increasing number of projects and for the preparation of the report on the 10 years of activities of the Fund (E/CN.4/1993/23), as well as for the efforts made by the Assistant Secretary-General in appealing for contributions.

Annex V

GUIDELINES RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AT ITS TWELFTH SESSION

1. As a rule, the Board does not consider any new application for a grant until satisfactory narrative and financial reports on the use of all previous grants have been received well in advance of its session.

2. The Board recommends that pledges be announced in United States dollars.

3. As a rule, the Board will terminate projects which have not sent satisfactory reports within one year since the latest communication from the Secretariat and, as the case may be, will request a refund of the grant. If the request for refund is not met by an organization within a time-limit indicated by the Board, it will not consider a new application from the organization concerned.

4. As a rule, the Fund does not subsidize a project through another Fund in order to avoid retaining fees on the money channelled and to keep control on the use of the money spent.

Annex VI

[Original: English]

PRESS RELEASE ISSUED AT THE CLOSE OF THE TWELFTH SESSION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES*

During its twelfth session, which ended on 28 April, the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture assessed the operation of the projects subsidized by the Fund and heard 18 persons responsible for 39 projects. Information concerning 135 projects and subprojects was examined, including analysis of narrative, accounting and audit reports on the use of grants made in previous years, as well as requests for grants for ongoing and new projects in 1993 and in 1994. On behalf of the Secretary-General, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights has approved recommendations by the Board of Trustees for the funding of 67 projects in 50 countries to relieve the suffering of the tens of thousands of victims by obtaining for them medical or psychological support, opportunities for social or economic reintegration, and legal or financial assistance involving expenditures of approximately $2 million for 1992-1993.

Although the financial situation of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture has improved this year thanks to the positive replies of several Governments to the fund-raising campaign launched in 1992 by the Board of Trustees, the latter, at its twelfth session, insisted that additional resources were still needed to meet a growing demand totalling more than $4 million in 1992-1993.

The General Assembly set up the Fund in 1981 to receive voluntary contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals for distribution, through established channels of assistance, as humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals who have been tortured and their relatives.

The projects subsidized by the Fund fall essentially into the following fields: psychotherapy, medical care, social rehabilitation, and training of professionals and volunteers (doctors, psychologists, physiotherapists, paramedical personnel, social workers, etc.) for specialized treatment of torture victims. In addition to helping victims of torture directly, the Fund has been able to assist the relatives of victims with their psychological, economical and social problems and has contributed to the development and application of suitable treatments for torture victims.

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* Press release HR/3434 of 16 June 1993.

The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General, assisted by a Board of Trustees composed of a Chairman and four members who have wide experience in the field of human rights and serve in their personal capacity. The current members of the Board of Trustees are: Jaap Walkate (Netherlands), Chairman, Elizabeth Odio Benito (Costa Rica), Ribot Hatano (Japan), Ivan Tosevski (former Yugoslavia) and S. Amos Wako (Kenya).

Since its establishment, the Fund has received contributions from the following Governments: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Holy See, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Senegal, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America. It has also received donations from several individuals and non-governmental organizations.

Annex VII

[Original: English]

HOW YOU CAN HELP VICTIMS OF TORTURE*

Assisting victims of torture

The combat by the United Nations against torture has a long history. It began in 1948, when torture was outlawed in the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Next, it was outlawed in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in 1966, and in the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, in 1984. Despite these repeated prohibitions under international law, torture is still a widely spread phenomenon and there is every reason to continue the battle.

The essence of the Convention against Torture is that States are under an obligation to take legislative and administrative measures to prevent acts of torture and to declare such acts as offences under criminal law. People who violate such laws shall be prosecuted and, if found guilty, punished. The Committee against Torture was set up under the Convention to monitor the implementation of these laws. Over 70 States Members of the United Nations are parties to the Convention. The Commission on Human Rights has also nominated a Special Rapporteur to report on the phenomenon of torture in general and to respond to reliable allegations of torture. Many of those needing help were tortured because of their activities as lawyers, journalists, trade-unionists or leaders of rural workers or because of their work in human rights organizations.

One of the means to mitigate the effects of torture on the victims and their families is to give them medical, psychological, social, legal and economic aid. With this in mind, the General Assembly established, in 1981, the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture to direct humanitarian, legal and financial assistance to victims of torture and their families anywhere in the world through established channels of assistance. The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, with the advice of a Board of Trustees consisting of five members with wide experience in the field of human rights.

The Fund is operated in accordance with United Nations financial regulations and the Secretary-General presents annual reports on its activities to the General Assembly and to the Commission on Human Rights. The Fund receives applications for grants from institutions, organizations or groups which have set up specific programmes for assistance to torture victims, such as specialized centres for refugee victims of torture, and non-governmental organizations having medical, social or legal expertise in the field. Most of them do not receive government support and therefore look, inter alia, to the Fund for financing.

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* Leaflet usually distributed for public information.

From 1983 to 1992, the Fund has collaborated with nearly 100 organizations on approximately 160 programmes in about 40 countries. Each year, the Board meets for eight days to examine narrative, financial and audit reports on the use of grants made in previous years as well as requests for continuing assistance and new projects. In 1992, 70 projects were approved, for a total amount of $1.6 million. As in the past, the focus of the Board's recommendations to the Secretary-General has been on supporting projects that provide direct medical, psychological, social, economic, legal or other assistance to torture victims and their family members. The Board has also made recommendations for support to training programmes for health professionals on the techniques of treatment of victims of torture as well as for meetings of health professionals in which they could compare their experiences.

With requests for assistance totalling more than $3 million, less than half of the required amounts could be granted in 1992. While there is a fairly constant flow of funds from regular donor Governments into the Fund, it is clear that there will never be enough money to help all victims of torture in the world. Some people with enormous traumas, both physical and mental, need professional help for many years. What we know from the statements of project leaders to the Board is that, with United Nations funding, a sizeable number of people can be helped to start a new life, to make that life tolerable, and to be at peace with the society they live in. Such statements are encouraging but do not diminish in the least the need to eliminate torture at the root.

How you can help

The Fund can only give aid to torture victims within the limits of the financial resources at its disposal. The needs for aid are considerable. Since the Fund is completely dependent on voluntary contributions from Governments, private organizations and individuals, any contribution is most welcome. Assistance recommended by the Board for each project per year ranges between $3,000 and $100,000. Individuals, organizations and Governments are encouraged to make contributions, in the form of a cheque or transfer from bank to bank, which should be sent, for the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, by transfer to:

- Chemical Bank, United Nations Headquarters, New York, N.Y. 10017, USA, Account No. 015-004473 in United States dollars, or to

- Swiss Bank Corporation, P.O. Box 2770, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland, Account Nos. CO.590.160.1, in United States dollars, or CO.590.160.0, in Swiss francs;

or by cheques to: The Cashier's Office, United Nations, Room 213, CH-1211 Geneva 10.